MAINE FARMER

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS GENERAL INTELLIGENCE &c

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Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

RAISING FISH.

We have often, for a few years past, called the attention of our reader to the fact that fish could be bred with as much certainty and comparative profit as cattle, horses or hogs, and urged the trial of it upon those who were conveniently situated for the work.

We are happy to learn, as we do by the Calais Advertiser, that there is one man in Maine who has commenced the work. The plan which he has adopted is somewhat novel, in this country at least. He designs to take advantage of their natural habits and instincts, and give them a fair chance to propagate in their own way and time. This is a good idea. If he has obtained a good and sufficient thoroughfare for them to and from the sea, by a stream unobstructed by sawdust and the influx of any scum or filth, or unwholesome matter from mills or factories or such like establishments, his success is just as sure as that of a farmer who secures good pasturage for his cattle in summer, and a safe passage from it to his barns and enclosures in winter.

The following is the paragraph alluded to.—Perhaps some others, who have small lakes or ponds which are or can be connected with the sea, may take the hint and do likewise:

"We understand that Mr. Upham Treat, formerly of Frankfort, has been busily engaged since early in spring to the present time in buying up Alewives, Shad, Bass and Salmon, and depositing them in Shattuck's Lake and one or two others adjacent to it, to spawn. He has secured the right of way from the Lakes to the sea, and has cleared out the stream so that his fish can pass without interruption between the lakes and the sea. He does not expect any returns from his speculation for three years; when, if they multiply and do well he will reap a rich harvest every year thereafter. Mr. T. has expended upwards of two thousand dollars in the operation, and it is to be hoped he will realize his most sanguine expectations, for it must be a great benefit to this region. The project has been tried in France successfully, and we see no reason why it should not succeed equally as well in this country."

BUDDING.

The art of propagating particular varieties of fruits by budding or innoculation, as it is often called, depends upon the exact uniting of a piece of bark, having a bud of the fruit desired on it, to the bark, and alburnum or sap wood to the stock on which you wish the fruit to grow. The time to effect this is as soon as the bark will slip off easily from the stock. The time begins about the first of July, and continues until the sap wood or alburnum begins to become hard. As soon as the leaves have got their growth, and got into full action, the sap which they pump up from the roots is elaborated or manufactured by them into into material for sap wood, (alburnum.) This elaborated sap then takes a downward course, and is spread all around the old wood of the limbs and trunk, and covering it begins to form a new layer or sheath of wood. When this process commences, the bark will slip off easily from the stock, and then is the time to commence budding, and to be successful, you must join a smooth cut or edge of the bark of the stock, so that the sap flowing down from the upper part of the stock will flow into the little vessels of the bud bark, and thus unite the whole together in its process of growth. Hence the success depends very much upon the mechanical skill of the operator, in adjusting and retaining the parts closely together.

To illustrate this operation in a way that every one can comprehend, we copy the following directions and cuts from the New England Farmer, and we do not doubt that by a careful perusal many of our young readers will become expert operators in the business. It will be well to practice it a little on almost any common stocks, merely to get a little practical experience in the matter, even if you do not expect to do much at it as a business. A knowledge of the *how*, the *why*, and the *wherefore*, will be useful to you.

The time in which budding is usually performed is from early in July to the middle of September; plums and cherries are among the earliest to be budded, and pears, apples and quinces the latest. If the season in July, or even in August, be very dry, budding had better be postponed until there are copious rains. Stocks from a quarter of an inch to an inch in diameter may be budded, although those of an inch are more suitable for grafting. The buds should be selected from thrifty shoots that have nearly done growing.

Shield, or T budding, is the most approved mode in all countries, and is described by Downing as follows:

Fig. 1. A stick of buds.

Having your stick of buds ready, choose a smooth portion of the stock. When the latter is small, let it be near the ground, and if equally convenient, select also the north side of the stock, as less exposed to the sun. Make an upright incision in the bark from an inch to an inch and a half long, and at the top of this make a cross cut, so that the whole shall form a T. From the stick of buds, (Fig. 1,) your knife being very sharp, cut a thin smooth slice of wood and bark containing a bud. With your budding knife, now raise the bark on each side of the incision, just wide enough to admit easy the prepared bud. Taking hold of the foot stalk of the leaf, insert the bud under the bark, pushing it gently down to the bottom of the incision. If the upper portion of the bud projects above the horizontal part of the T, cut it smoothly off now, so that it may completely fit. A bandage of the soft matting is now tied pretty firmly over the whole wound commencing at the bottom, and leaving the bud and the footstalk of the leaf only exposed to the light and air.

Common shield-budding, Fig. 2, practiced in all gardens in Europe, differs from the foregoing only in one respect—the removal of the slice of wood contained in the bud. This is taken out with the point of the knife, holding the bud or shield by the leaf stalk, with one hand, inserting the knife under the wood at the lower extremity, and then raising and drawing out the wood by bending it upwards and downwards, with a slight jerk, until it is loosened from the bark; always taking care that a small portion of the wood remains behind to fill up the hollow at the base of the heart of the bud. The bud thus prepared is inserted precisely as before described.

Fig. 2. American Shield Budding.

The American variety of shield budding is found greatly preferable to the European mode, at least for this climate. Many sorts of fruit trees, especially plum and cherries, nearly mature their growth, and require to be budded in the hottest part of our summer. In the old method, the bud having only a shield of bark with but a particle of wood in the heart of the bud, is much more liable to be destroyed by heat, or dryness, than when the slice of wood is left behind, in the American way. Taking out this wood is always an operation requiring some dexterity and practice, as few buds grow when their eye or heart wood is damaged. The American method, therefore requires less skill, can be done earlier in the season with younger wood, is performed in much less time, and is uniformly more successful. It has been very fairly tested upon hundreds of thousand fruit trees, in our gardens for the last twenty years, and, although practiced English budders coming here, at first are greatly prejudiced against it, as being in direct opposition to one of the most essential features in the old mode, yet a fair trial has never failed to convince them of the superiority of the new.

Fig. 3. Bud Bandaged.

After treatment. In two weeks after the operation you will be able to see whether the bud has taken, by its plumpness and freshness. If it has failed, you may, if the bark still parts readily, make another trial; a clever budder will not lose more than six or eight per cent. If it has succeeded, after a fortnight more has passed, the bandage must be loosened, or if the stock has swelled much, it should be removed altogether. When budding has been performed very late, we have occasionally found it an advantage to leave the bandage on during the winter.

Fig. 4. European Shield Budding.

As soon as the buds commence swelling in the ensuing spring, head down the stock with a sloping back cut within two or three inches of the bud. The bud will start vigorously, and all "robbers," as the shoots of the stock near to and below the bud are termed, must be taken off from time to time. To secure the upright growth of the bud, and to prevent its being broken by the winds, it is tied when a few inches long to that portion of the stock left for the purpose, Fig. 5. About midsummer if the shoot is strong, this support may be removed, and the superfluous portion of the stock smoothly cut away, when it will be rapidly covered with young bark.

Fig. 5. Treatment of the growing bud.

CATTLE SHOW REGISTER.

The following are the times fixed for holding the various Cattle Shows in this State. The Kennebec Society hold theirs, it will be seen, one week later than stated in our last:

Maine County Fairs.

Androscoggin, at Lewiston,	Oct. 6, 7, 8.
Aroostook, at ———	
Bangor Hort. Society, at Bangor, ———	
Cumberland, at ———	
East Somerset, at Hartland,	Oct. 14, 15.
Franklin, at Farmington Centre,	Oct. 1, 2.
Kennebec, at Readfield,	Oct. 13, 14, 15.
Lincoln, at Waldoboro',	Oct. 13, 14, 15.
North Aroostook, at Fort Fairfield,	Oct. 7, 8.
North Franklin, at Strong,	Oct. 6, 7.
North Kennebec, at Waterville,	Sept. 15, 16, 17.
North Penobscot, at ———	
North Somerset, at Bingham,	Oct. 13, 14.
Oxford, at ———	
Penobscot, at ———	
Penobscot and Aroostook Union, at ———	
Piscataquis, at Dover,	Oct. 7, 8.
Sagadahoc, at ———	
Somerset, at Skowhegan,	Sept. 23, 24, 25.
South Kennebec, at Gardiner,	Sept. 23, 24, 25.
Waldo, at Belfast, ———	
Washington, at ———	
West Oxford, at ———	
West Penobscot, at ———	
West Somerset, at Madison Bridge,	Oct. 7, 8.
York, at ———	

ORCHARD AND NURSERY. There is but little to do in the orchard at this season, save keeping the ground light about the trees, thinning fruit and killing caterpillers. Caterpillers and other insects neglected last month, should by all means be looked at now. In some cases Summer pruning may commence the latter part of the month. The nursery grounds will need frequent plowing and hoeing.

ONION WORMS.

A few years ago we used to raise good crops of onions, though on rather a small scale. The onion worm then began to commit its ravages. At first but a few onions were destroyed; next year more of them, and finally we had to give up the culture and retire beaten, for not a single onion could we raise. We then gave up the culture. Others do better, either because their grounds are not much infested with the fly, or because they know how to combat them more successfully than we can.

The following communication we clip from the New England Farmer, on account of the facts it contains in regard to the natural history of the fly. This knowledge may ultimately lead to a successful mode of preventing its attacks:

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Essex says he finds trouble from the onion maggot, and fears it is an increasing difficulty; I think he is right in his belief. I am no Dr. Harris, or Fitz, but will tell him all I have ascertained about the fly that blows the onion, and the maggot.

The maggots made their appearance in this section about 1850. Many thought soaking the seed in hot water would prevent the evil, but my seed was sown when I was told of the remedy; my onions came up finely. It happened that a few old onions came up in the bed and grew very fast. After about half that came up from the seed had been destroyed, one of the old ones lopped down; I took it up by the roots, found it full of maggots, took six or seven of the largest and placed them in a clear glass bottle; a few days after I had as many nice, clean flies. I took the bottle to the onion bed and found any quantity of the same kind of flies. I found, by watching them, that they deposited from three to a dozen eggs upon the onion top, a little above the ground. About mid-day the eggs seemed to be alive, and moved down the stalk into the ground; the top would soon wilt and fall over. They are not satisfied with destroying my onions, but take my cabbages and turnips; they worked so bad in my turnips, last year, that I had none fit for the table.

If any plan can be devised to keep the fly from the onion tops it will prevent the maggot.

Contoocookville, June 8, 1857. J. B., JR.

For the Maine Farmer.

"GOING WEST TO LIVE CHEAPER."

So says many an eastern laboring man. He is working hard, he says, and is but little if any more than making the "two ends of the year meet." He has a young and increasing family, and every year his affection for his wife and little ones prompts him to expend for their benefit the most of his available income. By and by, on thinking this over, he comes to the conclusion that he is not laying up money so fast as he ought to be, and he resolves that the difference between his income and expenditures must be increased. He has heard much said about the cheapness of living at the west, and forthwith he numbers one on the long list of those who are going or have gone west "to live cheaper."

Very often is this decision made and carried out without any investigation into the truth of this notion of cheap living at the west. Many a man has sold out and emigrated a thousand miles, at a great loss and outlay, without ever asking of any well-informed, disinterested person, the statistics to prove this "cheapness of living," and yet, if asked, this if the reason given for the move. Now let us see whether there is any real foundation in fact for this prevailing notion that a family can be supported equally comfortable very much cheaper west than east.

The Facts in the Case.

First, *bread* and *meat* are cheaper west than east—we'll say from twenty-five to forty per cent. cheaper, which is full as much as facts will confirm. Second, everything else is dearer, averaging full as much dearer as bread and meat are cheaper. Groceries, anywhere off from the lines of railroads or navigable streams, are fifty per cent. higher, and often one hundred per cent. poorer. Just so with boots and shoes, clothing, furniture of all sorts,—in fact, with all articles of eastern manufacture. Building costs more that at the east, the materials are higher, and the mechanics at the same prices are not so skillful. In fact, a well built house is a rarity outside the older villages in the west; and any other building well built no experienced western traveler ever dreems of seeing. All sorts of social, religious, and educational privileges are very much more expensive, from the fact that they have to be *created* as well as perpetuated, and for the first few years of the settlement of a town, such privileges are usually to be obtained only by what we should call long journeys. In fact, *everything* is only to be obtained, in the newer parts of the country, by "long journeys." To draw a load of grain twenty miles across the "*per-ra-rie*" to mill, or an equal distance to a store, the wife or daughter riding on the open ox wagon upon the bags, is not "all fun," even if done "out west."

Taking all these things into consideration, it seemed to me that a man who expected an equally good living for less money in the west than east would be disappointed; yet I could not deny that it did cost less to live west than east as a general thing.

How this is done.

Simply by having less of a living, and often the living is lessened much more than the expense. The family that at home could not do with less than half a dozen good sized rooms, are now contented, (or discontented,) in one or two. I have seen many a family from a good home in the east, living in one or two rooms, that at home would have been thought but a poor apology for a pig-stye. Of course, if there is no parlor, there is no furniture for it, and ditto for the sitting room. If there is no church to go to, there will not be so pressing a need of "Sunday clothes." If there are no schools, or if the children do not attend, there will be no money to pay for tuition or school books. And so of a thousand things thought to be among the "must haves" of New England; they are not had in the new home, therefore they are not to be paid for, therefore the living is cheaper.

About the Eatables.

Nor is the comparison any more favorable for the west, if we look at the mere eatables. Pork is cheap, pork is eaten, therefore living is cheap. I soberly think that no part of the world enjoys so bad a diet, with so little variety, as the greater part of our western community. I say enjoys, for your true western man does enjoy his "hog and hominy," to a degree that would put to the blush an alderman over his turtle soup.

Of course, the living might be better, vegetables will grow anywhere they can get a chance, and so will cattle for beef, but this variety is expensive, and as the chief end of man is to "make money," so he must stick to his disgusting diet day after day, the year round. I am not a jew, nor do I forswear all "hog meat," but I do like a little more variety than salt hog boiled, salt hog fried, and salt hog smoked, over and over again, three times a day, for three hundred and sixty-five days in each year. The only way I managed to escape the everlasting "hog," was to call at the farm house, "between meals," for a bowl of bread and milk, and then often would come upon the table a plate of "cold pork," which had been, to use the words of the housewife, "left over in the morning and set away for the men's luncheon." Nor does one find much more variety in the smaller villages. Everbody is too busy in "speculation" to pay much attention to the food for the inner man.

Exceptions.

There are exceptions to the statements I have made in regard to living in the west. There are communities, villages and towns, of as good moral and intelligent people as can be found in New England; but they are rare, and in no one particular that I could see preferable to like places in the east. There are good schools and churches and pastors in the west, but they are not, as a general thing, within the reach or ability of the emigrant. He must go without, until he can afford to create for himself and then maintain. Many families live in good houses, but they cost more to build, finish, or rent, than the same accommodations cost in our midst. Everybody does not live entirely on pork, (it is more by faith than by sight, however, that I speak of anything else excepting the bread and milk aforesaid,) but whoever does not, does not live much cheaper than at the east. I speak in a general comprehensive manner of the impressions made by some thousands of miles travel, and of course do not expect that any hamlet will be perfectly described, or even if it is, I do not expect that everybody would be willing to acknowledge the truthfulness of the picture. T.

Boston, June 25th, 1857.

For the Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

HELD AT READFIELD DEPOT, JUNE 9, 1857.

The meeting was called to order by S. N. Watson, Esq., North Fayette.

Rufus Prince, Esq., of Androscoggin Society, was chosen chairman, and David Cargill, of Kennebec Society, was chosen Secretary.

Voted, To choose a committee of one from each Society represented here, to take into consideration the subject of the time of holding the annual shows and fairs of contiguous Societies.

George E. Shores, North Kennebec; S. N. Watson, Esq., Kennebec; J. S. Chandler, Esq., Franklin; and Sewall Moody, Esq., Androscoggin, were chosen for said Committee.

Committee subsequently reported that but two Societies represented here, had fixed upon a time of holding their shows and fairs that would conflict with each other. They recommended for one to change to an earlier day. The following Resolve was passed unanimously.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting, that the Board of Agriculture at its annual meeting, recommend to the State and County Societies a time for holding their annual Shows and Fairs, that Societies adjacent to each other may not conflict by appointing the same days.

Voted, To have the doings of this meeting published in the Maine Farmer when the Secretary shall receive notice from the North Kennebec Society of the time of their holding their Show and Fair.

Such notice has been received.

North Kennebec hold their Show and Fair, Sept. 15th, 16th, and 17th.

Kennebec County Cattle Show and Fair, Oct. 13th, 14th, and 15th.

Androscoggin Cattle Show and Fair, Oct. 6th, 7th, and 8th.

The meeting was one of much harmony.

DAVID CARGILL, Secretary.

East Winthrop, June 20, 1857.

TREATISE ON HOT HOUSES.

C. M. Saxton & Co., the celebrated Agricultural book publishers, have put out a new issue of a practical treatise on the construction, heating and ventilation of hot-houses, including conservatories, green-houses, graperies, and other kinds of horticultural structures, with practical directions for their management in regard to light, heat and air. By Robert B. Leuchars, garden architect.

This is the best practical work on this subject that we have yet seen. It is a neat duodecimo volume of 336 pages, and fully supplied with cuts illustrating the subjects treated of in the text. Those who feel an interest in the subject, or are about constructing a green-house or grapery, will, by sending a dollar to C. M. Saxton & Co., 140 Fulton-st., N. Y., get their money's worth in a good work to guide them.

THINNING OUT VEGETABLES. It seems a pity to put a hoe into those luxuriant rows of beets, carrots, parsnips, and onions, that already give promise of an abundant harvest. But full two-thirds of them must still be sacrificed, before you can get a full crop. They are cramped for room. The carrot sends out its roots on all sides of the main tap, and if it have chance, will completely occupy the soil on all sides of it with its fine rootlets. One root will appropriate the aliment in a square foot of soil, much better than a half dozen, and will make a greater weight of nutritious food at the harvest. This is what wise cultivators are seeking for,—the most food upon the least surface. Thin out then to six or eight inches apart, and if you want very large specimens for the Fairs, make the spaces a foot wide. The roots that are pulled up are excellent fodder for cows and pigs, and if you throw a few into the poultry yard, they will be appreciated. Try it and see. [American Agriculturist.

THE HEDGE FEAST.

Where the bees and the butterflies
  Skim the meadow down,
Five merry little children,
  Gathered from the town.
From dark and gloomy alleys,
  From sickly lanes and rooms,
Drearier and sadder
  Than a place of tombs.

Ragged little Johnny,
  Merry little Jim,
Crooked little Barney—
  How sweet the fields to him!
Matty with her white head,
  Bonnet all awry;
Katie with sweet fancies
  Glittering in her eye.

They have roamed the meadow,
  They have roamed the wood,
Seeking nuts and blackberries,
  For their pleasant food,
With their nuts and blackberries
  And lumps of bread and cheese,
On a mossy hedge bank,
  Now they sit at ease.

Drinking from the brooklet,
  'Neath the hawthorn tree,
Clear it runs as innocence—
  Fresh, and bright, and free.
The hawthorn shook fresh odors,
  Like a blessing down,
From the pure white blossoms
  Of its leafy crown.

Plump white lambs were gathered
  'Neath its cloven stem,
And the happy children
  Nestled close by them;
And the thrush sang loudly
  On the hawthorn spray,
And the brooklet ever
  Made music on its way.

I watched unseen, oft sighing,
  To think what simple joy
Was here, that earthly riches
  Might seek in vain to buy.
How easy to be happy,
  Where nature doth suffice;
Wealth and grandeur are not
  Found in Paradise.

A NEW MOTIVE POWER.

The Baltimore Patriot is enthusiastic over a new motive power, alleged to have been discovered and brought into practical operation by Prof. J. F. Salomon, of that city. It is called the "Sulph. Oil Carbonic Acid Engine." The Professor has been at work on his discovery for the last ten years, during which time he has been aided by some of the most opulent and intelligent citizens of Baltimore. The machine is a common rectilineal steam engine, differing in no material feature from those in general use, only a new motor is used, which is thus described by the Patriot:—

"The patent novelty consists in the motive power and its application, which wholly supersedes steam. This motor is produced by a compound of de. sulphiated bi. sulphuret of carbon, coal tar, and volatile or fixed oil, which, under certain influences of heat, becomes powerfully expansive, and thus gives momentum. Though only a four-horse engine, it was performing the estimated duty of ten horses, and has been so doing since put in operation, nearly a fortnight ago.

The great virtue and triumph of this wonderful invention, which in all probability will cause a revolution in machines, are its economy, safety, and power, combining, also, cheapness and convenience.

The fluid or gas, constituting the motive power, is used over and over again with scarcely any diminution or waste, being thrown, after performing its work, from the heater to the condenser, and from the condenser to the heater again, with thorough renovation. The heater, where the gas or fluid is introduced, is submerged in a cistern of heated oil, kept hot by a gentle fire. In this condition the gas expands, gaining its power and passing through pipes and valves, acts upon the piston, giving motion to the engine. The appliances are simple, easy of comprehension, free from complication, and not subject to accident or disarrangement. Thus a steady, active force is at all times kept up.

The cost of this fluid is estimated at ten cents per gallon, and it is demonstrated that eighteen gallons, by careful attention, will run an engine of the capacity here noticed, for one year. Its components are such as not to freeze, even at ninety degrees below zero. The amount of fuel is, in a proportion of fifteen pounds of coal to one hundred pounds, compared with a steam engine of the same dimensions, whilst more than double the force can be brought into requisition."

A trial of steam under an equal application of heat, is said to have clearly demonstrated a great superiority of this new motor, in its application, over steam. With a degree of heat which produced eight revolutions per minute with the new motor, the steam engine moved but slightly and then stopped. Besides it is claimed that explosion is impossible, and thus a great point is gained in obviating danger. A number of scientific gentlemen and practical machinists, who have witnessed the operation of this engine, express themselves confident of its success. Prof. Salomon is a native of Prussia, but has been a citizen of the United States for twenty-seven years. [Boston Journal.

UTILITY OF HAY CAPS. Some thousands of tons of hay might be saved and much hard work and vexation prevented, if all the farmers would provide themselves with hay caps before commencing their haying. Now is the time to provide them, and nothing can be more simple. All that is wanted is as many pieces of cotton sheeting, two yards square, as you will be likely to have cocks of hay at any one time, liable to be caught in a shower. The corners of the cloths should have loops to pin them to the hay by long wooden pins, made of hazel bush or any other smooth sticks, which are preferred to stones in the corners. As to the usefulness, profitableness and convenience of hay caps, there can be no longer any room for dispute; the thing has been proved by thousands—proved that no farmer in America can afford to do without hay caps; because they will generally pay for their cost every year, and some seasons those who have used them assert that they have paid their cost more than twice over. [Exchange.

WHEN TO GATHER CROPS.

This is an important topic. To cut grass when it is "ripe," and grain when ready to shell out, is far from economy. Careful observations and experiments, as well as chemistry, teach us that all grass and grain crops, to be consumed as food for man or berst, should be cut down before maturity. Many of the roots, also, are better for premature gathering. Potatoes may well be ripened in the ground; and were it convenient to make the separation, we should say let grain, designed only for seed, remain upon the native stalk, in the field, until nearly ready to fall off. As we have said, experiments carefully made have proved conclusively that wheat, for example, if cut six to twelve days before full maturity, yields not only a greater bulk and weight, but more and better flour, than if allowed to stand until "dead ripe." We have frequently published the direct trials which have established this fact, and will not take space to repeat them here. Let us look a little into the *reasons* for such a result. It will not be disputed that a pound of gum, or sugar, or starch, is better food than the same amount of wood or woody fibre. Much the largest proportion of the nourishment of wheat or corn, or other grain, is derived from the starch it contains. More than three-fourths of the entire bulk of wheat flour, for example, is really pure starch. The same may be said of corn meal. But all grains contain more or less of woody fibre, in the shell.

Wood, sugar, starch and gum, are composed of precisely the same *elements*, and these are nearly in the same proportion. The difference in form and properities is chiefly in the arrangement of the elements. Yet wood is nearly indigestible, and of course fails, in part, to yield nourishment, while sugar, starch and gum, are easily digested, and almost their entire elements furnish nutriment.

Examine grain in the milk, and it will be found to consist almost totally of starch, gum and sugar, the abundance of sugar giving it a sweetish taste. Let this grain ripen, and the starch, gum and sugar, are hardened, and in part changed to woody fibre, that is, husk or bran. But cut the grain while scarcely out of the milk state, and you stop the natural change into woody matter, and thus secure a larger proportion of the desired starch, sugar and gum. It is well known that the earliest flour made from first-cut grain possesses a peculiar sweetness. Corn picked while still soft, and dried, retains its sweetness. The only point to be looked to is, not to cut grain before it attains its full development of material. This point has been found to be just at the period when it commences hardening. No grain should be allowed to stand a day after it becomes so solid as to require a gentle pressure to crush the kernel between the thumb and fingernails. This rule applies to wheat, oats, corn, and indeed to all cereal crops. Gathered at this time, which is usually eight to ten days before perfect ripening, there will not only be more and better nutriment, but the yield of grain, and especially of flour, will be from five to ten per cent. greater, and often more, than if the cutting had been deferred ten days.

The decidedly superior value of straw cut green, is another important item to be taken into account. The increasingly high price of hay, and the advance in the demand and value of stock, render it important to give more attention to the preservation of straw. Wheat or oat straw, and corn-stalks, if left standing until fully matured, are little better, and little else than so much wood; but stop the ripening process as soon as it is practicable to remove the grain, and you secure straw and stalks worth one-fourth to one-half their weight of hay, as the latter is ordinarily cured. Would it not be better to run the risk of getting a few pounds less of grain by too early gathering, if thereby you secure a greatly superior quality of feed in the straw?

The reasons for cutting grain early apply with equal force to all crops gathered for forage. Taste a stalk of grass just as it is losing its flower and you will find it sweet, succulent and tender. A few days afterward, it is more like a dry piece of wood. But cut it down at the former period, dry it in small masses to prevent heating and fermentation, and it will retain much of its sweetness, and contain a large proportion of the sugar, starch and gum. We state an undeniable fact, one established by rigid experiment, that *four* tons of hay gathered just as the flowering season is over, will yield more nourishment than *five* tons gathered ten or twelve days later. We have the best authority for saying that one acre of grass, which when cut fully ripe would yield 1,000 pounds of digestible nourishing matter, and 2,000 pounds of woody fibre, will, if cut 10 or 12 days earlier, yield from 1,500 to 1,800 lbs. of nourishing material, and only 1,200 to 1,500 pounds of woody fibre. We will not stop to estimate what an immense saving would be effected to the country were the principles above stated thoroughly understood and practised upon.

[American Agriculturist.

STEAM CULTIVATION. Five different methods of steam plowing are now in the course of trial this season in England, and we hope the question of its economy in comparison with animal power will soon be fairly solved. It is now a question of practicability, for steam plows do operate well; but hitherto their expense has been more in plowing, per acre, than by horses. The five systems embrace the traction engine, the stationary engine and stationary windlass, stationary engine and travelling windlass, rotary cultivator and a digging and forking steam plow. With regard to the traction engine, (which moves over the field, dragging the plow,) the London Engineer says: "A vast amount of opposition has been advanced to the traveling of portable engines over arable land, but having got them in the field, apparently doing their work as economically as any of the other systems, and even more so, the more philosophical course is to leave the great practical questions at issue to be settled at the bar of experiment." This is sensible advice. The traction system will yet be the one adopted, because it is the most simple.

[Scientific American.

PLUM TREES. Cut out all black knots and watch carefully for the appearance of the curculio.

REZOIL.

Mr. S. Piesse, in the Gardeners' Chronicle, says: It is well known that the patience and labors of the horticulturist are frequently rendered unavailable by the appetite of insects. For preserving their flowers from these enemies, gardeners have adopted several plans, not one of which appears to be effective, more especially against the earwig, which is most to be feared as the flowers approach maturity. How many show dahlias are thus "cut off in their bloom!" With the hope that the following recipe will offer some check to these marauders, I send to you, assured that its cheapness and easy application will render it universally appreciated. Take of common rosin, 1¼ lbs.; sweet oil, 1 lb.; place them in a pipkin over the fire until the rosin is melted, stir the materials together, that they may be well blended; when cold the substance is formed which I call "rezoil," of the consistency of molasses. To use the rezoil it should be spread with a brush upon shreds or any fitting material, and wrapt round the stem of the plant; if any support is used, that should be brushed over also. No insect can possibly, or will attempt to cross this barrier; the rezoil never dries, but always remains sticky and clammy—its action as a trap is therefore obvious. To preserve grapes and other wall fruit we have only to nail a strip of list upon the wall round the entire plant, and then paint it well with the rezoil on both sides, if it can be managed, to keep insects from crawling under as well as over. Other modes of application will suggest themselves without my here enumerating them. Birds, cats and mice equally avoid soiling themselves with this substance.

SHARPENING EDGED TOOLS. It has long been known, that the simplest method of sharpening a razor, is to put it for half an hour in water, to which has been added one-twentieth of its weight of muriatic or sulphuric acid: then lightly wipe it off, and after a few hours set it on a hone. The acid here supplies the place of a whetstone, by corroding the whole surface uniformly, so that nothing further than a smooth polish is necessary The process never injures good blades, while badly hardened ones are frequently improved by it, although the cause of such improvement remains unexplained. Of late, this process has been applied to many other cutting implements. The workman, at the beginning of his noon spell, or when he leaves off in the evening, moistens the blades of his tools with water, acidified as above, the cost of which is almost nothing. This saves the consumption of time and labor in whetting, which moreover speedily wears on the blades. The mode of sharpening here indicated, would be found especially advantageous for scythes and sickles.

[Timbs' "Year-Book of Facts," 1857.

SOMERSET CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. The Somerset Central Agricultural Society met at the Town Hall, on Monday last, and continued their labors preparatory to the Exhibition and Fair.

The land has been purchased, and the friends of the enterprise are evincing laudible zeal in giving to the society the prominence, and securing for it the prosperity to which the Agricultural interests of this part of the county are entitled.

The Exhibition and Fair will be held on the new grounds at Skowhegan, on the 23d, 24th and 25th days of September next.

The society adopted a code of By-Laws, and appointed the necessary committees.

The report of the Committee to offer prizes, will be made at the earliest day practicable, when a full list of the premiums offered will be published in our columns.

[Skowhegan Telegraph.

CROSSING THE ATLANTIC. From the result of the maritime observations established by Lieut. Maury, that gentleman deduces some interesting facts concerning the relative frequency of gales in each month in various parts of the Atlantic Ocean, north and south. The North Atlantic, it appears, is much more boisterous than the Southern division. At no season of the year can the passage around either of the "stormy capes" vie for storms with the winter passage between England and America. The most favorable season for passenger travel across the Atlantic is found to be about the last of July and the first of August. This part of the ocean is tranquil in summer. There are fewer gales but more fogs and ice in June than in July or August, but fewer fogs and least ice in August.

INGENIOUS. A young man of 18, in prison at Paris for theft, has made a watch of straw. This little masterpiece is two and a half inches in diameter, about half an inch thich, and will go for three hours without winding up. The dialplate is of paper, and a pretty straw chain is attached to the whole. The instruments and materials the prisoner had at his command were two needles, a pin, a little straw, and thread. Several persons of distinction, moved by this surprising genius for mechanics, are now endeavoring to obtain his liberation.

INSECTS. These will constantly make encroachments within green houses, and fix lodgments for rearing their young broods. Destroy them by syringing the whole house, forcing the water violently against the walls, fumigating with tobacco and collecting by hand. It is far easier to destroy a few now, than whole broods when the plants are ready to be brought in, later in the season.

WHEN CLIMBING ROSES fail to run, which is often the case, the remedy is to cut away all but three or four of the strongest shoots, and permit none but these to grow the first season. Give the plant plenty of manure—liquid manure—manure of almost any kind or description. By this means you can cause your climbing roses to grow to almost any extent desired.

LIQUID MANURE. One thing should be remembered,—liquid manure should only be applied when vegetable life is active. Applied to roots before they have started in the spring, or in the fall, or at any time when they are in a quiescent state, it will help to kill them.

GRAFTS. Look over and loosen any bandages which are binding the trees.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

MAINE FARMER

AUGUSTA:

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 9, 1857.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

We thank God that we have lived to see the day when there is one Agricultural college established and in operation within "these United States." This is established in one of our youngest, but most vigorous States, Michigan.

We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of a pamphlet, containing a catalogue of the faculty and students, and also a history of the rise and institution of the college, report of the services at the Dedication last May, with several addresses given on that interesting occasion. The following persons constitute the faculty, viz:

Joseph R. Williams, President and Director of the Farm.

Calvin Tracy, Prof. of Mathematics.

Lewis R. Fish, Prof. of Chemistry.

Henry Goadby, Prof. of Animal, Vegetable, Physiology and Entomology.

D. P. Mayhew, Prof. of Natural Services.

Robert D. Weeks, Prof. of English Literature and Farm Economy.

John C. Holmes, (Treasurer,) Prof. of Horticulture.

Enoch Bancker, Assistant in Chemistry.

James M. Shearer, Stewart.

There are now sixty-one students.

Under the head of Expenses and Labor, the pamphlet informs us that "Tuition is free."

The students labor at present, three hours per day. The maximum rate of wages allowed is ten cents, and the minimum five cents per hour, according to age, capacity, and fidelity. Board will be charged at cost, not exceeding, however, two dollars and fifty cents per week. It is a subject of regret that the exorbitant ruling prices of all articles of consumption, will make the board high during the first term of the Institution.

The wages allowed each student will be fixed and the cost of board computed, on the third Wednesday of June of the current year, for the summer term, and hereafter on the 3d Wednesday of July for the summer term, and the third Wednesday of January for the winter term. The balance will be struck at those times with each student, which must be paid by the student, his parent, or guardian, within two weeks from those dates respectively, when the balance is against him, or will forfeit further privileges in the Institution. In case the Institution is indebted to the student, the balance will be settled in the same manner.

The college is situate in the town of Lansing. There is a farm of 676 acres of land attached to it, which is now nearly in a state of nature.

A college building 100 by 50 feet, and also a boarding house of equal size constitute the buildings at present.

Further particulars can be obtained of the Secretary, Prof. J. C. Holmes, by addressing him at Lansing, Michigan.

METALLIC ALLOY.

We would say to the subscriber who asks for some advice in regard to the principles of manufacturing alloys of metals, that we are not well posted up in such business, knowing next to nothing in regard to the business practically.

There are certain general principles which every one who has been versed somewhat in chemistry, has learned in regard to such operations which may be of service to those who wish to experiment in the mixing of metals. One of these is the necessity of fusing and mixing the metals as much as possible out of contact of the air. All metals when fused combine more easily with oxygen than when cold, and many mixtures will combine more easily with it when mixed than the separate ingredients would when not united. Hence, it is often, and indeed, almost always necessary to cover the melted mass with some material that will form a crust on the surface and exclude the air from the liquid metal below it.

The following is alleged to be a patent obtained by a Frenchman for a gold colored alloy. It is only a species of fine brass. We presume that none of the magnesia, ammonia, &c., enters into the composition of the alloy formed, but they act as a flux and purifier, and form a crust over the melted mass which prevents any oxidizing of either the copper or zinc while uniting.

"The following is the substance of the U. S. patent granted to Elie Mourier, and J. F. E. Vallent, of Paris, on the 3d of March last, patented in France, December, 1854. The alloy is called *oreide of gold*. It is formed with 100 parts by weight of pure copper, 17 of zinc, 6 of magnesia, 3.60 sal ammoniac 1.80 of quick lime, and nine of unpurified tartar. The copper is first placed in a crucible in a suitable furnace, and fused, the magnesia is then added slowly, the sal ammoniac, lime and tartar separately, and in the form of a powder. These are kept from the air, and well stirred with copper for twenty minutes, until the whole are incorporated together. The zinc is then added in stripes or fine pieces, thrust through the crust on the top of the copper. The whole mass is then thoroughly stirred, the crucible closed, and its contents kept in fusion for twenty-five minutes. After this the crucible is opened and skimmed very carefully, to remove all the dross. The alloy thus formed is poured out into dry sand and moulds if required to be rolled; if not, may be poured into iron moulds. When re-melted in a blast furnace, it is rendered more applicable for ornamental works of art.

This alloy, it is stated, is very beautiful, resembling gold in appearance—very close in the grain, ductile, and brilliant."

New Patents. Among the patents issued for the week ending the 30th ult., were the following:—

Robert Hale of Roxbury—Improved apparatus for separating the oily particles held in suspension by steam. Elias Howe, Jr., of Cambridge, and W. R. Bliss, of Boston, Mass—Improvement in sewing machines. R. S. Jennings of Waterbury, Conn.—Improved carriage tops. Matthew Ludwig, of Boston—Improved sawing machine for felling trees. Charles Robinson of Cambridgeport—Elastic loop for suspending bedstead slats. Hezekiah B. Smith of Lowell—Improved mortising machine. Charles T. Stetson, of Amherst, Mass. Improvement in harvesters. George H. Reynolds, of Medford, Mass., assignor to himself and D. B. Hinckley of Bangor, Me.—Improvement in strap pillow block for shafting, &c. Wm. Sage, of Durham Centre, Conn., assignor to Henry Sage of Berlin, Conn.—Improvement in sewing machines.

Re-issues. Mertown C. Bryant, of Lowell, assignor to E. B. Bigelow, of Boston—improvement in looms for weaving piled fabrics—patented March 19, 1850, re-issued June 30, 1857.

Green Peas. A handsome specimen of green peas was presented us by Mr. Stephen Higgins, of this city, on the 1st inst., being, so far as we know, the first in the field, in this vicinity. Mr. H. is a successful horticulturist, and yields the prize to no one on early crops.

Newspaper Change. The last number of the Age announces the retirement of Messrs. Fuller & Fuller. They are succeeded by Elias G. Hedge & Co. The paper will be edited by Daniel T. Pike, Esq. We wish the new firm all manner of prosperity.

DEATH OF HON. WM. L. MARCY.

The telegraph announces the sudden death, at Ballston, N. Y., on the 4th inst., of Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, late Secretary of State. He appeared in his usual health, in the morning, but was found dead in his room about noon. His funeral was expected to take place at Albany, on Wednesday, on which occasion there would be an imposing military display. Mr. Marcy was a native of Sturbridge, Mass., whereshe was born in 1786. He graduated at Brown University in 1808, and commenced his law studies in Troy, N. Y., soon after. His talents, energy and fidelity to business soon introduced him to the confidence of the public, and his fellow citizens kept him almost constantly in office. In 1816 he was appointed recorder of the city of Troy, in 1821 he removed to Albany and was appointed Adjutant General of the State. In 1823 he was transferred to the treasury department, N. Y. After serving in this station several years he was appointed one of the Judges of the Supreme court—two years after he was chosen U. States Senator—but after serving one session he was chosen Governor of New York In this office he continued six years.

He next served on the Board of Commissioners to settle claims of our citizens on Mexico. He was Secretary of War under President Polk, and Secretary of State under President Pierce. A political opponent says of him, that his career as a statesman has been marked by few mistakes, and he had largely gained the confidence of the whole country, by integrity, uprightness, and executive ability.

THE FOURTH---SERIOUS ACCIDENTS.

The Fourth was celebrated in grand style in Portland. The city was crowded with strangers to witness the regatta, balloon ascension, and other entertainments provided for them by the committee of arrangements.

The regatta was the first thing in the order of the day, and it commenced at 9 o'clock in the forenoon. For the first race in wherries and fancy boats of any description, pulled by one man, with one pair of sculls, distance two miles, there were ten competitors. The first prize was awarded to Thos. H. Doyle, of Boston,—time 21 m. 10 sec.; second prize to James B. McKay, of St. John, N. B.,—time 21 m. 30 sec.; and the third prize to Thos. H. Daley of Boston,—time 21 m. 35 sec.

The second race, between four oared gigs or boats, distance two and and a half miles, was contested by three boats,—the Veronica of Boston, Express of Portland, and Florence Nightingale of Longueuil, Canada. The first prize was awarded the Veronica,—time 21.50; the second prize to the Florence Nightingale,—time 22.15.

For the third race, between six and eight oared gigs, same distance as second race, there were five entries, all six oared boats. Three were from Boston, one from Longueuil, and one, (rowed by six brothers,) from Portland. The first prize was awarded to the Fort Hill Boy,—time 20.15; and the second to the Robert Emmett,—time 20.45. Both these were Boston boats.

The regatta concluded with a race between four canoes, paddled by two Indians each, distance two miles. The best time made was 25.25, and the poorest, 26.40.

The Argus, from which we gather these particulars, says:—

The scene in the harbor during the regatta was the most lively one ever exhibited, while the tens of thousands who lined the wharves, shipping and the bow of Munjoy's hill, was evidence sufficient, that in inaugurating this new feature in the celebration of the glorious fourth of July, a plan had been struck out which the people would not soon give up.

The balloon ascension of M. Paullin took place at 4.20 P. M., and was a very successful one. After rising nearly a mile, the balloon struck a current of wind which was taking it down the bay, and the æronaut concluded to descend. He landed on the farm of Capt. Moody, in Falmouth, about six miles from the city, after being up about 30 minutes.

The Fourth was also observed in Bangor by a grand Fireman's celebration. We have, as yet, no particulars.

As is usual, we have accounts of numerous accidents on the Fourth. The most serious one occurred on the Common, Boston, in the evening. During the exhibition of fire-works, from carelessness or ignorance, a shell ignited before leaving the muzzle of the mortar, bursting the mortar and scattering the heavy fragments in every direction. Four persons were killed, and two wounded. Others narrowly escaped with their lives. The names of the killed are Patrick Cooke, aged about 20. He was the one who fired the piece, and was instantly killed by a piece of the mortar striking him. George P. Tewksbury, late harbor master of Boston, aged about 49, was struck by a heavy piece of the mortar, crushing in the temple and skull, breaking the lower jaw, and inflicting a most terrible wound. He was taken to the Hospital, where he died about twenty minutes past twelve, the same night. Mr. Asa Libby, about 44 years of age, who was standing in Charles Street, was struck in the breast by another heavy fragment, and fatally injured internally. He was put in a carriage, and started for home but died before reaching his door. A youth named McMahan, about 15, was struck on the head by a piece of the mortar and almost instantly killed. Wyseman Marshall, Esq., and Mr. John W. Robinson, were both knocked down by pieces of the mortar. The latter had his skull slightly fractured, but was considered out of danger on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Marshall was severely bruised about the neck and shoulder, but is not considered in any particular danger

Among other accidents, two men were seriously, if not fatally injured by the premature discharge of a cannon, in Swampscott, Mass. Mr. Henry L. Dean, of Attleboro', Mass., was instantly killed by the bursting of a cannon. One side of his head was nearly stripped off, by a piece of the cannon. He was about 22 years of age, a widower, and leaves one infant child.

We have heard of no accidents in this State. Nothing unfavorable occurred to mar the pleasure of the day, at Portland.

Attempt to Burn a Church. We are informed that a fire was discovered late on the evening of Sunday last, in the Methodist Church in Wayne. It was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary, who kindled a fire below the floor under the pulpit, which burnt up through, but was fortunately discovered and extinguished before great damage was done.

A Curiosity. A correspondent, who writes from Lyndon, gives us an account of a remarkable natural curiosity which he saw in the garden of Mr. Winslow Hall, of Letter H Plantation, Aroostook, on the 21st ult. This was a full-blown rose, upon an apple tree. The tree blossomed at the usual time, and, when seen by our informant, had many apples upon it. The blossom was nearly two inches across the surface, perfectly white, and resembled in all respects the common white rose, having as many leaves, and being as large and full otherwise. This was certainly a great curiosity, and one not often seen, although we believe we have heard of a similar freak of an apple tree, before.

Smart old Men. It seems that by some mistake we didn't do justice to Mr. Lancaster, week before last, he being much more active than we represented him. Since then we have received an account of another smart one. We will attend to them next week.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Littell's Living Age. No. 684 commences the eighteenth volume of the new series. The following are the principal articles:—"Imperialism"—from Fraser's Magazine; "The Wife of the Palatinate;" continuation of "The Interpreter"—a tale of the Russian War; "France and her Food;" "Nature and art in the cure of disease," "Vision of a Studious Man;" "German Love;" "Memoirs of Marshal Marmont;" and "Maritime War." A large number of poetical selections and short articles fill up the remaining pages. We have often spoken in terms of praise of this periodical, and we take the occasion of the opening of a new volume, to again recommend it to the favorable consideration of all lovers of a high class of literature. Published weekly, 64 pages, by Littell, Son & Co., Boston, at $6 a year.

Panorama of Literature. The July number of this work is at hand. Everything that can be said in favor of the Living Age applies to the Panorama, from the fact that it is a monthly issue of that work, comprising, however, the best and choicest articles only, and published at $3 a year. If you cannot subscribe for a year, at least purchase this number, and you will acknowledge it a good investment.

New Music. Among the recent publications of Oliver Ditson, Boston, are the following:—Beyer's Boquet des Melodies—I due Foscari; Mexican National March; Hail Columbia—duet for piano; L' Elisire d' Amore—Donizetti; Vaillance Polka—Ascher; The Forest Fairy—song; Sounds from the Old Stone Mill—Shepherdess' Ballad and My Mother Sleeps. Besides his own publications, Mr. D. keeps constantly on hand all the new and popular music of the day, which will be sent post free, on receipt of price.

United States Magazine. The July number of this work is very handsomely illustrated. A "Life of Washington," from the pen of a popular author, is commenced, appropriately illustrated. An article on the manufacture of newspapers gives an interesting account of the New York Herald establishment, with views of the different rooms, presses, &c. This monthly is published by J. M. Emerson & Co., New York, at $3 a year, and may be had in Augusta of C. A. Pierce.

THE BURNING OF THE MONTREAL.

We gave a short account of this dreadful calamity in our last. Montreal papers, since received, contain full particulars. We have noticed the names of no Americans among the lost, except Hon. Stephen C. Phillips, of Salem, Mass., and —— Norcross, of Lowell, Mass. We see, however, that the death of Mr. Norcross is contradicted. Mr. Phillips was a distinguished citizen of Salem, was four years Mayor of the city, and was a member of Congress from the Essex District from 1834 to 1838. For the past few years he had withdrawn from political life. He was 56 years of age. Fitting tributes of respect were paid to the deceased by the city authorities, and on Sunday touching allusions to the loss were made in all the churches.

We copy the following particulars:

According to the Commercial Advertiser the most reckless disregard for human life was shown by the officers of the boat. That paper says:

"Fire broke out in the *Montreal shortly after leaving Quebec*, in the neighborhood of her furnaces; it was got under, and again broke out, the vessel keeping on her way with her freight and five hundred passengers; a third time it broke forth, and the man set to watch, came on deck and declared that no more could be done. By this time the fire had run from stem to stern, and in a few moments smoke and flames came out from end to end. Then came an awful scene of horror and confusion.

* * * * * * *

As the burning vessel neared the shore, she struck a rock within a stone's throw, and remained fast, surrounded by deep water."

The calamity is said to have occupied from first to last, but fifteen minutes. In half an hour the hull of the steamer had sunk. Capt. Rudolf was the last to leave the vessel. The disaster happened at a considerable distance from the settled part of the shore, so that but little assistance could be derived from that quarter. Had the steamer got a few yards further, she might have landed her passengers in safety. Among the incidents related, is that one woman, as she floated on the water, found a child nestling to her bosom, though she knew not how it came there, and though expecting to perish herself, let it cling to her, and exerted herself to save it, and both were taken up alive; the child is badly burned, and no one claims it.

The Montreal Advertiser of Tuesday, states that the passengers were generally in good circumstances, and it is said they drew upwards of £10,000 from the Quebec banks on their arrival. As very little money was found on the bodies recovered, it strengthens the rumor that they were deliberately plundered by the residents near the scene of the terrible disaster.

The number of bodies recovered at last dates, was 152 at Quebec, 16 at Montreal—total 168. An inquest was holden on the bodies, but we have not yet received any account of its doings. It is to be hoped that a searching investigation will be made, and if the officers of the boat are culpable that they may be held to strict account. As a proof of the insufficiency of the equipment of the boat, we see it is stated she had but one boat—which was immediately filled and swamped by the terrified passengers—and no other appliances for their safety.

Democratic Convention. The Democratic State convention was holden in Portland on Tuesday of last week. Hon. Manasseh H. Smith, of Warren, was nominated for Governor, receiving 296 votes out of 585. The other votes were divided as follows:—Hon. N. S. Littlefield, 131; W. P. Haines, 82; E. K. Smart, 50; Geo. F. Shepley, 20; 6 scattering.

The Teazer. The steamer Teazer, which has been withdrawn from the route between this city and Bath, for the past few weeks, is now running from Portland to Cape Cottage and the Islands, for the accommodation of pleasure parties, &c. May good luck attend Capt. Beck in his new undertaking.

New Hampshire Legislature. This body adjourned on the 27th ult., after a session of twenty-five days only. The Concord Independent Democrat says that, notwithstanding the shortness of the session, a great amount of labor was performed. Short sessions are a glorious thing for tax payers.

Dr. Caldwell's Darien Route. We have been favored with the view of a letter from an eminent engineer, who is well acquainted with the subject, concerning Dr. Caldwell's project for a canal across the Isthmus of Darien, for the verification of which the United States Government have recently ordered competent officers to proceed to the Isthmus. The writer believes that Dr. Caldwell is mistaken in his calculations, and that his project will prove valueless. It is said that he made his explorations without instruments, his route lying, for a great part, through an unbroken wilderness, and that, consequently, it was impossible for him to form a reliable judgment as to the feasibility of the proposed canal. It is further said that he abandoned his researches when the greatest difficulties began, namely, at the high grounds which border the Atlantic, and that the water which he is said to have seen from the top of a tree, and supposed to be the Atlantic, was in reality the Pacific, it being utterly impossible for him to have seen the Atlantic from the place where he is stated to have done so.

We also learn that it is probable that Commodore Paulding will decline to take charge of the contemplated exploring expedition.

[N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

THE GREAT MEDAL.

We give herewith a representation of the great Medal of the U. S. Agricultural Society, to be awarded at the National trial of Reapers and Mowers, at Syracuse, New York, on Monday next. The medal is reproduced in gold, silver, and bronze. The following is a description of it:—

Face. On the face is Ceres, (Goddess of the Earth, Patroness of Agriculture,) seated upon a throne. In her right hand, which is elevated and extended forward in an attitude of invitation, she holds a wreath of honor; in her left the sickle—emblem of agricultural industry. In her lap are gathered various fruits. Her brow is crowned with the star of Empire, and her expressive countenance manifests her dignified rank as the impartial disposer of awards to the competitors. Around the rim of the medal is the classic wreath of laurel, and within this are the words, in Roman letters: "United States Agricultural Society.—MDCCCLII."

Reverse. The reverse side is ornamented simply with a wreath of plants, the production of the grand divisions of the United States, emblematic of the National character of the Society. On one side are the Sugar Cane and Cotton Plant, on the other the Indian Corn and Wheat, and, at the bottom, uniting the two, is a grape vine laden with fruit and leaves. Thus the great staples of the South, North, West and East, are wreathed together, encircling a space appropriated for inscribing the name of the successful competitor.

GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &c.

An Immense Steam Engine. A correspondent who has been visiting the iron and coal regions of Pennsylvania, writes of an immense steam engine at Swanton, which is used simply to create a draft for the iron furnaces. It is of 1700 horse power, and fills a good-sized three story brick building. The writer says it is the most magnificent steam engine in the world, and that a mate of like dimensions is now building.

Failures in the United States. There were 2700 failures in the United States last year. Their debts are estimated to have been more than $50,000,000 and the loss to creditors more than $40,000,000.

Gold in New Zealand. The Nelson (New Zealand) Examiner reports the discovery of a rich gold field in the Aurore valley, near Massacre Bay. The flakes of gold are disseminated so equally throughout the surface of the soil as to leave no doubt that far richer deposits will be found at the foot of the higher ranges. A nugget weighing 3 dwts. 12 grs. had been picked up accidentally in a stream on the eastern side of the province.

Reduction of Postage to the Cape of Good Hope. We are requested to state, says the Washington Union, that the postage upon letters between Great Britain and the Cape of Good Hope, whether conveyed by packet or by private ship, has been reduced to six pence (12 cents) the half ounce letter or under, and that, in consequence of this reduction, the single rate of postage between the United States and the Cape of Good Hope, via England, will be in future 33 instead of 45 cents, prepayment required.

Canadian Flour for New York via Portland. The Argus states that the steamer Western Port which sailed from Portland for New York, on Wednesday, took 1000 barrels of flour for that city which came from Canada on the Grand Trunk Railway to Portland; being a fulfillment of a prediction that flour from Canada would ultimately be transported to New York by that route.

An Ancient Chair. Capt. Putnam of York, Me., has a chair of oak, quaintly carved, much wormeaten, which he brought from Venice. It is six hundred years old, formerly belonged to one of the Doges, and has stood on the Bridge of Sighs.

Justice done by the Chinese. A letter from Hong Kong says that the Chinese authorities have addressed a letter to Dr. Parker, assuring him that the murderer of Mr. Cunningham has been strangled for the offense. The duties which have been kept back by the United States Consul, on that account, were about to be paid up.

Time Annihilated. The telegraphic despatch on Monday from St. Johns, Newfoundland, by the Submarine Telegraph, in regard to the steamship Persia being seen off that port, was dated Monday, 10.35 A. M., and was received at New York Monday, 10.34 A. M. The distance from New York to Newfoundland is about one thousand miles—the difference in time, perhaps an hour.

The Atlantic Telegraph. Some doubt is expressed if the submarine cable will be ready in time to be laid this season. Professor Morse is not willing to risk it, unless the ships can sail early in August, as bad weather is to be apprehended in the latter part of that month. It is, perhaps, in consequence of this apprehended delay that the stock of the company has fallen.

Camp Meeting at Kennebunk. The Methodist camp meeting will be held at Kennebunk, commencing on Monday, August 24th. The land on which this meeting is to be held has been secured for that purpose for ten years, and arrangements have been made with the railroad company, for the same period, to carry passengers to and from the ground at half fare.

One good Effect of Cold Weather. The grasshoppers that have threatened to destroy the crops in certain parts of Minnesota, have been killed by the recent cold and wet weather. It is said that bushels of grasshoppers, in masses, may be seen on the prairies.

The Kansas Election. St. Louis, July 1. The Leavenworth (Kansas) Times says that the official vote of Douglass, Shawnee, Jefferson, Leavenworth, Lykins, Johnson, Lynn, Doniphan and Atchison counties is 1698.

The New Militia Law in New Hampshire. The Manchester American gives the following summary of this new law:

"1. A general enrollment of all persons liable to do military duty is made by the Selectmen of towns and the Assessors of cities, and by the clerks of the towns and cities returned to the Adjutant General's office.

2. For the purpose of a Volunteer militia the State is divided into three Divisions, (nearly corresponding while the three Congressional Districts) and six Brigades, with the formation of Regiments is left at the discretion of the Governor.

3. Volunteer companies may be formed in any place, and accepted by the Governor at his discretion; and if the town or city council of cities shall by a vote assent to it, each man enlisted shall be entitled to draw from the town or city one dollar per day for each day while on actual duty at the regular training, musters or encampment.

The regular parades are three, as under the old system, with a provision for an encampment not to exceed three days. There is no active duty except by volunteers."

Central American Matters. *New York, July* 1. The Daily Times learns from private sources, that as soon as an interview is had with Mr. Bowlin, our Minister to Bogota, the government will immediately decide on the course to be pursued with New Granada, which will be of the most determined and summary character, if an amicable adjustment is not entertained.

In relation to our affairs in Venezuela, concerning Bird Island, the course of our Minister, Mr. Eames, is approved of, and if the communication to be received from the government be not of a satisfactory character, the ultimatum of this government will be conveyed by a vessel of war, as there is no resident Minister here from Venezuela to communicate with.

Hon. Wm. E. Venable of N. C. is in town, and will leave for Aspinwall on Monday next, in the steamer Illinois, *en route* for Guatamala, to perform the duties of United States Minister resident near the government of that Republic.

Launching Accident. An attempt was made on Thursday last, to launch the bark built at Cherryfield, by Amos Dyer. Unfortunately, before she had run half her length, the ways broke down and she stuck fast in the mud. Up to Friday night all attempts to move her proved unavailing. The bark was not damaged, it was thought, though a large expense will attend getting her afloat. [Machias Union.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE "FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE," CAPT. GOSS.

The splendid new ship "Florence Nightingale," Capt. Guy C. Goss commander, is now lying at Liverpool, and is attracting much attention as a fine specimen of American naval architecture, and, together with her accomplished commander, is very highly complimented by the Liverpool papers, as appear from the following extract from one of them.

We readers of the Farmer will be interested to know that Capt. Goss is a native of Maine.

"The Florence Nightingale is a choice specimen of American naval architecture. She was built at Boston by Mr. Jotham Stetson, a descendant of one of the sturdy old Dutchmen who made America their home in days gone by, and who appears, in her construction, to have carried out those ideas of solidity and comfort for which his forefathers were so famous. Beams, knees, stringers, and planking, are dovetailed into each other, and bound together in a manner indicative of the greatest strength; and all the woodwork, internally and externally, is finished with that care and attention to detail which is the characteristic of most American vessels.

The dimensions of this fine craft are: Length over all, 210 feet; beam, 39 feet; depth of hold, 25 feet; and register, about 1,500 tons. The chief cabins are under a poop deck, and consist of a dining saloon and ladies' cabin, both tastefully fitted up, the latter elegantly and luxuriously. The ladies' cabin is in itself a proof of the high degree of skill which the Americans have attained in cabinet work. The walls are panelled in mahogany, and so cleverly is the veneering done that it is almost impossible to discover the edges where one piece of wood is joined to another. There are sleeping berths for sixteen first-class passengers, who will be surrounded by every comfort which they can desire at sea. But in the 'tween decks of the vessel, where the great bulk of the passengers will, of course, be accommodated, the admirable construction of the vessel for emigration purposes is most apparent. As viewed at present, it forms a fine apartment, nearly 190 feet long, 39 feet broad, and 9 feet high from floor to ceiling, the height from the lower part of the upper deck beams to the planking of the main deck being 8½ feet. There are no fewer than five hatchways, and a skylight ventilator from the poop deck, besides two very large side-ports, so that light and ventilation are efficiently provided for, even when the deck becomes built up with state-rooms for the passengers. The crew have their quarters in a house on deck, which also includes cabins for the officers and apprentices, and a well-fitted cooking galley that would not disgrace a nobleman's kitchen. The deck will form an excellent promenade, for it is not lumbered up in the manner so objectionable in some vessels, and in bad weather the passengers will be amply protected by lofty bulwarks, which are made much stronger than is usual by the stanchions being carried solid through the topgallant rail.

Of the vessel's performances so far, the highest opinion is entertained. The Florence Nightingale brought 4,500 bales of cotton here from New Orleans, her commander managing to beat the large new clipper ship Monarch of the Seas on the passage. There were few occasions on the voyage, when the vessel had "a good leading wind and plenty of it" for any length of time, but she frequently turned off the log-reel at the rate of thirteen miles an hour, a speed which, despite some long-how assertions, is very rarely attained by a sailing ship.

The gentleman in command is Captain G. C. Goss, who has been to California and Australia on several voyages, and is full of knowledge most valuable to those who are going to establish themselves in the golden land. Captain Goss is most urbane in his demeanour, and, while a thorough seaman, he is evidently something more than a mere sailor. He is certainly proud of his vessel and of the name she bears—a feeling which he will, no doubt, carry out in ministering to the cares of those who may place themselves under his charge.

The Florence Nightingale will be in the Prince's Dock next week, and will take her departure from Liverpool on the 15th of July, for Melbourne.

Capt. Goss formerly resided at Kent's Hill, Readfield. He was the son of a poor widow, and was for several years a student in the Maine Wesleyan Seminary, where he sustained himself by the labor of his hands, or by school teaching, till he graduated to a life upon the ocean some ten or twelve years ago. By his intelligence, energy, and fidelity, he has risen through the subordinate grades of sea-faring life to his present commanding and eligible position.

He is remembered with interest by his teachers at the seminary, as a studious and exemplary young man. Capt. Goss has evinced his regard for the seminary where he received his education, by a recent donation of *one hundred dollars* to aid in the erection of the contemplated new seminary edifice. Success to the "Florence Nightingale" and her worthy commander.

Winthrop, July 6, 1857. A.

Kennebec and Portland Railroad. The Trustees to whom was mortgaged this road and franchise, &c., Oct. 15, 1852, to secure the payment of the Company's bonds to the amount of $250,000 and the coupons for interest thereon, have called a meeting of the holders of said bonds, to be held in the Brunswick Depot, July 23, to organize in accordance with the provisions of an act of this State, entitled "an act providing for the foreclosure of certain mortgages given to secure the payment of bonds and coupons issued by railroad corporations, "and to determine in regard to the expediency of the Trustees entering into possession of said Railroad, for the purpose of running and managing the same on their behalf, and to vote such instructions, and to adopt such other measures as they may deem advisable to obtain or secure the benefit of said act."

The Trustees call this meeting on account of the coupons of April and October, 1856, not being paid. [Argus.

Dix Island. This small Island of about 45 acres in its area—situated about three miles from the main land of South Thomaston and ten miles from Rockland—is at present a very busy place. The Island is owned by Messrs. Beals & Dixon, of New York, who have a large contract with the Government to furnish granite for the two wings of the Treasury building in Washington, and which it is calculated, it will take five years to fulfill. There are now employed on the Island about 250 workmen, engaged in quarrying, trimming, hewing and dressing the stone. The wages of these men range from $1,50 to 7,00 per day. Some very splendid blocks of granite have been got out, one of which was eighteen and a half feet long, eighteen feet wide, and two feet thick; others measured (when dressed) thirty-two feet long, four feet wide, and five feet thick. Thirty large oxen are employed to move the granite. [Lincoln Democrat.

Injury by Lightning. The house of Capt. James Prebble of Benton, was struck by lightning Monday forenoon, June 22d, injuring Mrs. Prebble, it is hoped not permanently, though she narrowly escaped death—the family cat being killed within two or three feet of her in the same room.

The Ellsworth American says that at Bluehill a valuable horse, 4 years old, owned by Joseph Hinckley and John Stephens, Esq., was killed by lightning during the shower on Monday last.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

Washington, June 29. (N. Y. Herald correspondence.) Despatches were received to-day at the State Department from Bogota. The imbroglio between the two governments is in a fair way of being speedily and satisfactorily arranged, our government receiving all the satisfaction.

To-day official orders and instructions were sent to Gen. Harney, who is to have command of the Utah expedition. It is to be composed of the 2d Dragoons, the 5th and 10th Infantry, which will shortly be at Fort Leavenworth, together with the battery of the 4th Artillery, now at that post; all of which will be prepared to march to and establish post at or near Salt Lake City; and at the earliest practicable day, he (Gen. Harney) will put the troops *en route*, but will, until that time, retain his present command of troops in Kansas.

On the 6th of January next, after the territory of Utah shall have been entered by the troops, it will constitute a new and separate military department, to be styled the "Department of Utah," to be commanded by Gen. Harney, or the senior officer present, who will, from the time of leaving Fort Leavenworth, be the commander of a separate army in the field, within the sense of the 5th article of war.

The armament and equipment deemed most suitable for the service of the battery of artillery, will be selected, and if necessary, extended in guns and horses by the commander of the expedition. The post at Salt Lake City, when established, and any other posts, not exceeding two in addition, that may be established in Utah, will be included among the "Chaplain posts," and "double ration posts," of the army. Capt. Duncan leaves here to-morrow, to take charge of the troops now at Carlisle Barracks, intended for the Utah service.

Washington, June 30. The Postmaster General with the approbation of the President, has selected the following route for conveying the overland mail to California, viz: Beginning at St. Louis and Memphis on the Mississippi river; thence forming a junction at Little Rock, Arkansas; thence in the direction of Preston to the Rio Grande, at the most suitable crossing of that river, to Fort Fillmore or Donna Anna; thence along the new road now being under direction of the Secretary of the Interior, to Fort Yuma; thence by the best passes through the best valleys for safe and expeditious staging, to San Francisco. The Postmaster General, with the approbation of the President, has given the contract to John Butterfield, Wm. B. Dinsmore, Wm. G. Fargo, James V. P. Gardner, Marquis S. Kenyon, Alex. Holland, of New York, and Hamilton Spencer of Illinois, at the price of $595,000 for semi-weekly service, they being the lowest bidders, and as they will perform 400 miles more service than the other bidders proposed.

The number of warrants or certificates issued at the Pension office during June is 4000, involving more than half a million of acres. Twenty-six millions of acres are required to satisfy the 209,000 warrants that have been issued under the act of March, 1855.

William Warnock, William Wilson, John Webster, Isaac Stoddard, and William Williams were to-day convicted in the Criminal Court, of rioting and preventing persons from voting in the 7th Ward on the 1st of June last. The two first named having left the city, their recognizances were forfeited. The others were fined $20 each, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the County Jail.

Washington, July 1. The net amount in the Treasury subject to draft is $20,000,000; of which in Boston there is nearly $3,000,000, in New York $9,000,000, in St. Louis nearly $1,000,000, in Philadelphia over $2,000,000, in New Orleans upward of $3,000,000, and in San Francisco nearly $1,500,000.

Thos. W. Southerland has been appointed Collector of Customs at Sacramento, vice Sackett, removed.

Lord Napier has engaged a family summer residence at Frostburgh, near Cumberland, Md.

One hundred and eight thousand dollars of Treasury notes, payable in 1856-57, are outstanding.

A delegation of Tonawanda Indians had a conference with the Commissioners on Indian Affairs to-day, in reference to the adjustment of their reserve lands.

Robert Cross, another of the election rioters, was arrested this morning, after a desperate resistance. He fired a pistol at officer Robinson, seriously wounding him in the hand, face and neck with buckshot.

Washington, July 2. A letter has been received from the Surveyor General of California, stating that the ranche "Riod los Americanos" has been confirmed to Joseph L. Folson. It contains 35,000 acres, and is said to be worth $5,000,000.

The "Fernandez" ranche is confirmed to D. L. Fernandez and others. It contains nearly 18,000 acres.

The San Francisco town lots, of little more than three acres in extent, have been confirmed to Jacob P. Leege and others.

The Navy Department has received dispatches from Commodore Paulding, in reference to the condition of the Nicaraguan adventurers whom he brought to New York. He mentions facts already known, and says: It became necessary not only to give protection to our misguided countrymen, but to reconcile the interests of contending parties belonging to the United States and Costa Rica, not always to be comprehended nor disposed of by an ordinary standard.

The general examination into the election riots will be commenced by the Grand Jury next week. At least 100 witnesses have been summoned.

A tremendous hailstorm passed over Fredericksburg yesterday, accompanied by terrible thunder, and hailstones as large as hen's eggs. All the windows on the windward side of houses were demolished, and all the magnets in the Telegraph offices burnt except one.

The railroad from Aquia Creek to Fredericksburg is badly washed, and both trains suspended. The one coming from the north was thrown from the track slightly injuring three passengers.

The damage to the crops must be immense.

The Portuguese Minister arrived here last evening. He had an interview to-day with the Secretary of State relative to our affairs with his government, and also relative to difficulties which some Portuguese vessels got into, as being implicated in the slave trade, and which has recently been under investigation before the Courts in New York.

Henry C. Murphy, our new Minister to the Netherlands, left here to-day for New York, having been sent for by the President. As Mr. Belmont is shortly expected to return home, the Administration desired Mr. Murphy to leave immediately for the Hague. He informed the President that his private business would not allow him to leave before the 1st of September. Mr. Belmont will, therefore, have to remain a month or two longer.

Gov. Sam Medary of Minnesota, arrived here yesterday, having left St. Paul on the 25th of June. Mr. Flandrean, the Indian Agent, had gone up the Minnesota river to pay the annuities to the Sioux, and difficulty was anticipated. Major Sherman, of the third Artillery, stationed at Fort Snelling, was called upon to go up with his company.

All the troops are withdrawn from Minnesota, except one company of the tenth Infantry, at Fort Ripley, and Maj. Sherman's Artillery.

Gov. Medary has had a long interview with the Secretary of War, on the defenceless state of the frontier, and made a proposition to raise a regiment of volunteer Cavalry, the band of Inkpadutah to be hunted down. Gov. Medary returns to-morrow.

Major Dean, Assistant Adjutant General United States Army, arrived this morning from Kansas, and reports Gov. Walker's complete success in quieting affairs in that Territory. All the citizens are now in favor of yielding obedience to the laws. No further difficulty is apprehended.

The Tehuantepec Route. The Advertiser publishes an extract from a letter written at Acapulco, in which the opinion is expressed that La Ventosa, the Pacific terminus of the proposed Tehuantepec route to California, is unfit for the purpose, on account of the exposed and dangerous nature of the harbor. The letter is from a gentleman said to be well qualified to judge of the matter. He says a Danish ship had to put to sea from Ventosa, last month, during a slight blow, in order to avoid shipwreck. The port is quite open, and a tremendous surf runs there, rendering landing impossible except in the quietest time. The above mentioned ship left all her water casks on shore when she slipped her cables, and after laying off and on for several days, waiting for the surf to subside, she was obliged to proceed to Acapulco for water and provisions. At the same time, two schooners lost their cables and anchors, and two more were driven ashore and broken up. The carriage road is said to be nothing more than a path with trees and bushes cleared a little, which a wagon could never get over.

NEW YORK ITEMS.

The Burdell-Cunningham case has reached the argument. The Surrogate has concluded to send a commission to California to take testimony.—The Surrogate thinks there will be plenty of time for a commission to go to California, be executed, and come back to New York, before he shall be ready to decide the case.

A Washington letter says:—A commission was instituted secretly by the Treasury Department for an investigation of the mode in which revenue at the port of New York is collected, and with a view to such alter

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE NIAGARA.

The steamship Niagara arrived at Halifax on Monday of last week. Her dates are to the 20th ult., three days later than previous advices. The following summary comprises all the news of importance by this arrival :—

GREAT BRITAIN. The British Parliament has been engaged in several important debates, some of which particularly interest American readers. In the House of Commons, Lord Claude Hamilton inquired what measures the government had taken to secure to British subjects whose property was destroyed at the bombardment of Greytown, reimbursement therefor. Lord Palmerston replied that the crown counsellors agreed that no British subject had any right to claim compensation for the loss of his property at Greytown. An animated discussion ensued, participated in by Lord Loraine, Mr Roebuck, Mr. Bentinck, Mr. D'Israeli, and Lord John Russell, all of whom condemned in severe terms the act of the United States Government in relation to Greytown. Lord John Russell approved the government's course in regard to claims for compensation, but thought that explanations should be demanded for the insult to the British flag. The subject was dropped without action.

In the House of Lords the bill from the Commons in relation to ministers' money in Ireland was brought up on Thursday. Lord Granville stated that the bill enacts that all existing interests shall be provided for out of the means at the disposal of the ecclesiastical commissioners, and would remove almost the only remaining cause of religious discord in Ireland. Lord Derby opposed the measure, but after a debate the bill was ordered to a second reading by 101 to 96.

The House of Commons was mainly engaged with the supply bill. Upon a division on one of the appropriations, Government was left in a minority of 10.

In the House of Commons on Friday, in answer to Sir. G. B. Peckell, Sir. C. Weed said it was the intention of the Government to increase the number of cruisers on the Slave coast for the suppression of the Slave trade.

The Catholic members of Parliament generally are still in opposition to the pending oaths' bill. At an adjourned meeting of influential Catholics a resolution was carried, affirming that the bill was practically a re-enactment of an oath, which was allowed even by Protestants to be insulting and oppressive, and earnestly requesting all Catholic members of both houses to oppose the bill at every stage.

The Bank of England on Thursday reduced its rate of interest to six per cent., both for discount and loan securities, but the movement created only a very slight rise in the funds. The discount houses also lowered their rates one-half per cent.

The London Times publishes an article on Walker's career in Nicaragua, in which it calls upon the United States Government not to tolerate such brigandage in future, but to wait patiently until time adds the Central American States to the Union.

The alterations in the frigate Niagara were expected to be completed by Saturday the 20th, on which day she would leave Portsmouth for Liverpool, to forthwith commence shipping the submarine cable. The officers of the Niagara were being hospitably entertained by the Naval authorities at Portsmouth.

Among the presentations to the Queen at a levee on the 18th, were Messrs. Cornelius Grinnell and J. V. L'Pruyn of New York, by the American Minister.

The weather in England continued very fine, and the crops were in a most promising condition.

The question of the abolition of the Irish Vice Royalty, had created considerable stir in Dublin and at a special meeting of the corporation of that city, a strong protest was entered against it.

The island of Perim, at the entrance of the Red Sea, has been definitely occupied by the East India Company, and the Times announces this as "the latest acquisition of the British Crown."

FRANCE. The election canvas continued very animated, but presented no new features. The Democratic party was still divided, and likely to continue so. It was supposed that none of their candidates, if elected, would take the oath to the government, although their organs refused to give any satisfaction in the matter.

The Plenipotentiaries were to meet at the Foreign Embassy in Paris on the 19th, for the purpose of signing the Convention relative to the Turko-Russian frontiers.

The Siecle had received a third warning for an article in favor of the Democratic candidates.

The Moniteur says that on account of the election the usual result of this case (a suspension of publication) will not be enforced.

There is a doubtful rumor afloat that Napoleon will pay another visit to Queen Victoria.

The ratifications of the treaty relative to the canton of Neufchatel were exchanged at Paris on Tuesday.

DENMARK. The Berlin correspondent of the Manchester Guardian says that accounts have been received from Copenhagen, which threaten to bring the German Danish question more rapidly to a solution, and, for the time being, to augment its complication. These accounts are to the effect that the King of Denmark had held a cabinet council, at which it was resolved that replies should be returned to the notes from Prussia and Austria, containing declarations of its being impossible for his Danish Majesty to assent to the demands of the Austrian and Prussian government; and that instructions have been forwarded to the Danish envoy at London, Paris and St. Petersburg, to lay copies of the reply before the governments which they are accredited to, and at the same time to propose that the question at issue be referred to an European Congress in the event of the German Diet adopted, as no doubt it will, the views of the two great courts.

The same writer also mentions a rumor of a probable defensive and offensive alliance in the matter between Denmark and Sweden, and a supposition that Russia is disposed to befriend Denmark.

BELGIUM. The Emancipation Belge states that the Turkish officers on missions in Belgium, have been suddenly re-called. These events are constructed into a confirmation of the unsatisfactory relations between the governments of the two countries.

The Brussels Moniteur announces that an order had been issued for the disbanding of the militia called to arms during the recent demonstrations.

RUSSIA. Some disturbances have taken place on the Gallician frontier. The peasants, believing the world was coming to an end, committed some excesses, and the troops had to be called out.

The Russian government appears to be displaying great activity in its relations with Central Asia. The Czar of Cracow speaks of three embassies recently sent into Persia and China. One has been confided to General Prince Melnikoff, as already stated, who has been sent to Teheran by Prince Barratyski, Governor-General of the Caucasian provinces, to notify to the Shah his nomination to that post, and to keep up relations. The other two are to China, and these missions acquire an additional importance when that country has broken off her relations with other States of Europe. An extraordinary embassy has been confided to Admiral Paniutine, who has already arrived at Irkutsk from St. Petersburg, and is to proceed immediately to China, to convey to the Emperor promises of assistance from the Russians against the rebels. This mission will also have for its object the regulation of matters connected with the frontiers and the development of commercial relations.

TURKEY. The question of the Principalities was growing in importance daily, and becoming more and more a question of principle, the decision of which will settle whether nationality shall be recognized in the Turkish Empire.

The Vienna correspondent of the Times writes that he has good reason to believe the question is likely to be settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

A letter of a compromising nature, written by Feerhad Pasha to M. Rosslea, the Austrian Consul at Rustchuck has been seized,

Latest by Telegraph.

PARIS, June 19. The oath is still in suspense: the government party attach great importance to it.

The Moniteur publishes the official customs returns, from which it appears there has been an increase of 3,429,710 francs over the corresponding month of last year.

A Mayor, who declared himself in favor of the opposition candidate, has been suspended.

At 5 P. M., the Plenipotentiaries representing the great powers, assembled at the Foreign Office, for the purpose of signing the Convention respecting the new frontier of Bessarabia.

COPENHAGEN, June 17. At a conference of the members of the Cabinet, it was decided that the dispatch which refuses to accept the pretensions of the great German States in the question of the Duchies, will not be sent the day on which the Council of State assembles.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the cholera, which is never totally extinct in that capital, is now raging violently, the number of deaths exceeding 70 a day.

The Moniteur of yesterday publishes an important address from the Prefect of the Seine to the electors. It commences by pointing out that the government, in frankly adopting universal suffrage, wished that the Chambers should be the expression of the general will. It has only reserved to itself one means of influence, namely—to proclaim aloud to the country the names of men who enjoy its confidence, that people may not be deceived by false declarations of political opinions.

The address shows that it is only by support of great bodies of State that the Emperor has been enabled to regain for France by arms, wisdom and policy, the front which is her due in Europe. To be enabled to govern, the Emperor stands in need of an election of independent Chambers, but devoted to his cause, and new institutions. The question therefore, stands clearly thus: 1st. To vote for candidates designated by government, and to ratify their conduct by your votes; to approve what they have already done, and to facilitate the execution of the grand projects of the Emperor.

2d. To vote on the other hand for hostile candidates, and to enter a path without a goal, with men who have really no sympathy with the people; who, in exercise of power, have already given proofs of their insufficiency and weakness, and who can only re-establish their party on the misfortunes of their country. The Moniteur subjoins a list of government candidates.

TRIESTE, June 18. Prince Bariatinski, Envoy Extraordinary of Russia, at the Court of Teheran, has arrived, accompanied by seventeen officers and sixty Cossacks, who served as his escort. He was to be received the following day at an audience with the Shah.

The Prince of Herat, who was taken prisoner, has been beheaded at Teheran.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS. The Philadelphia correspondent of the New York Despatch relates the following :—

"A curious train of disasters befell an humble family in this city last Monday. Master George Watson is the son of a well-to-do carman, who is employed on the wharf. On Monday, Master George proposed to fly a kite. His mother forbade him, but the boy, nothing daunted, took the law into his own hands, and went ahead. He got out kite, mounted roof, and began to 'pay out' twine. The 'paying out' the twine set the kite to fluttering like a wounded swallow or a young lady's heart when she hears her lover pull the bell handle. A horse attached to a cart was passing at the time. The horse ran away, threw off driver, and converted cart into a lot of kindling wood. This spectacle so alarmed Master George that he fell off roof and rolled into a rainwater hogshead and came near drowning. He was rescued from a watery grave by his mother, who, in attempting to kick his corduroys, fell and broke her knee-pan short off at the handle. While she was fainting with the pain, somebody jerked bell-pull. Master Watson opened the door, when two men entered, carrying the carman between them. He had a fractured clavicle and two broken legs, caused by his horse taking fright at the kite and throwing him against a lamp-post. It is needless to say that Master Watson's disobedience will prove a sorry event to him. As soon as the mother recovered from her swoon she sent a message to a neighbor's wife. Neighbor's wife returned, in company with two cords and a shilling raw-hide. Neighbor's wife then tied Master Watson to bed post, denuded his posterior, and for the next half hour the place resounded with notes of lamentation and woe, slightly mixed up with falling leather. Master Watson has since imbibed an unconquerable aversion to kites."

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—*St. Louis, June 20.* The extensive drug establishment of Messrs. Barnard, Adams & Co., in this city, was consumed by fire about nine o'clock this morning. In twelve minutes after the first alarm the buildings and stock were a mass of ruins. The loss is estimated at $190,000; insured 155,000.

Cincinnati, June 30. Last night, about twelve o'clock, a fire broke out in the foundry of J. L. Haven & Co., in this city. The foundry, and nine dwellings partially framed, were destroyed. The want of water prevented the fire department from extinguishing the flames. Loss $20,000; partially insured.

Cincinnati, July 3. The most destructive and disastrous fires, since the organization of the steam fire department, occurred last night. It broke out in the engine room of Messrs. Johnson, Meader & Co.'s furniture manufactory, corner of Smith and Columbia streets.

In a short time after, the entire building was enveloped in flames, and the fire was communicated to the adjoining eight-story brick building and the two frame structures owned by the same firm. All these buildings were destroyed with a large quantity of lumber and the entire stock. The loss is estimated at $100,000, and insurance at $30,000.

Also last night the stove and hollow ware manufactory of Messrs. Wm. Rohr & Co., the largest in the west, was destroyed by fire. Loss $100,000; insured $30,000. Several buildings and a large amount of lumber in the vicinity were destroyed, particularly Holstein & Hammer's moulding factory, J. K. Cooledge's furniture establishment, and the Merchants' Hotel.

By these disasters 175 men, employed by Johnson, Meader & Co., and 125 by Rohr & Co., are thrown out of employment.

Several persons were injured by falling walls.

A NEW SURVEYING EXPEDITION. Capt. O. H. Berryman, who last year made the deep sea soundings on the telegraphic plateau between Newfoundland and Ireland, is about to sail from New York in the steamer Arctic, on a similar expedition, whose object is thus explained by the Evening Post :

"The principal object of the present expedition is to discover a new line of soundings between Placentia Bay, in Newfoundland, and Cape Casco, northernmost cape of the main land of Nova Scotia, so that the telegraphic wire will only lie for four miles on Newfoundland, instead of four hundred, as under the present arrangement. The distance between Placentia Bay and Cape Casco is about six hundred miles along which soundings will be taken by Capt. Berryman.

Another object of the present expedition is to find the best spot on Trinity Bay, in Newfoundland, for landing the Atlantic cable. In pursuing this undertaking the Arctic will sail easterly on a line somewhat north of the soundings heretofore made, until about a hundred miles from shore when it is intended to make the track thus marked out unite with the former soundings.

The result of this experiment of Capt. Berryman will be interesting as refuting or establishing Professor Maury's objections to the correctness of his soundings last year."

THE DEFENCE OF VERA CRUZ. The Mexicans are preparing for the threatened invasion by the Spanish expedition. A late letter says that "the works of defence at Vera Cruz, Tampico, and other parts of the republic, proceed with activity. Among other movements of troops, 3000 men have recently been cantonized at Jalapa, to be at once transferred to Vera Cruz in case of necessity. It is stated by the Eco National that in case of war with Spain the President will put himself at the head of the Mexican army. Other papers record evidences of the greatest enthusiasm in defence of the soil, throughout the republic. The National Guards of Cordova and Tialpam, in offering their services to Commonfort, beg, as a favor, to be permitted to march as an advance guard against the enemies of their country. Other equally patriotic and chivalric offers of services are constantly being made."

CLAY MONUMENT. The corner stone of the Clay Monument, at Lexington, Ky., will be laid on the 4th of July. Rev. R. J. Breckinridge will deliver the oration. The most extensive arrangements are being made by the citizens of Lexington for the large assemblage of citizens and volunteer military companies which will doubtless be in attendance. Every State in the Union will be represented by one or more military companies; and among those already invited are the Amoskeag Veterans, Albany Burgess Corps, Chicago Light Guards, New York Light Guards, and the National Guard of St. Louis.

THE WAG FAMILY.

[CONCLUDED FROM FOURTH PAGE.]

"But," observed Jeremiah, "you know nothing about me."

"I beg your pardon Mr. Wag," said the banker; "you are what we call a good man, and have got a back."

"A back!" exclaimed the bewildered shopkeep.

"Yes," said the banker, smiling, "that is, a good friend to your back; and, though he chooses to keep himself in the back ground, depend upon it he'll not forsake you so long as you go on as you have done. Therefore, buy away for ready cash as largely as you please, and we'll honor your drafts."

On this hint Jeremiah subsequently acted, by making purchases which enabled him to serve his customers "on terms that defied all competition." Therefore, and by dint of strict attention and civility, his trade continued to increase, till he was obliged to add warehouses to his shop, and employ a regular clerk and collector, besides shopmen, partners, and wagoner.

In the meanwhile young Tom Wag studied Latin and Greek with a neighboring curate: William and Stephen were, in due course, admitted into the Blue-coat School, and the education of the other children went on precisely as had been recommended by their eccentric benefactor, whose advice Mr. and Mrs. Wag considered equivalent to commands. Still they were often uneasy about him and more particularly, after another Christmas eve had passed without his appearance. Poor Mrs. Wag was sure he was ill, and would occasionally charge him with unkindness for not letting her know, that she might go and nurse him. But again months and months rolled away, and at last autumn arrived, and with it brought the grand *denouement* of the mystery, as suddenly and unexpectedly as their former good luck.

All the Wags who were at home were sitting round a tea table, in the little garden at the back of the house, and Mrs. Wag was sedately filling their cups, when one of the younger children exclaimed, "who's that!"

Jeremiah looked round to where the child was gazing, and beheld his benefactor stealthily approaching from the back door, with an arch smile on his countenance, as though wishing to take them by surprise; but perceiving that he was discovered, he stepped nimbly along, according to his usual custom, and holding out his hand, said, "well my dear Wag, how are you? How are you, my dear Mrs. Wag? and how are you, young Jerry Wag, Mary Wag, Sarah Wag, Henry Wag, and Philip Wag?"

All expressed their delight at his appearance, according to their different ages and abilities, but all were evidently delighted, and none more than the strange little gentleman himself, whose eyes sparkled with gratification as he took his seat, looked round at the joyous group, and begged to join their family party. Mrs. Wag felt somewhat tremulous at first, and doubtless her visitor perceived it, as he turned his attention to the little Wags till she had finished her table arrangements and presented him with a cup of tea.

"That's you, my good lady," said he, "that's as it should be. All merry Wags together, eh?"

"We—we—thank God!" whimpered Mrs. Wag, "we are—yes! But it's all your doings, sir. I wish I could thank—thank you—as I ought."

Here Jeremiah perceiving that his spouse was too nervous to make an excellent speech, "took up the cudgels" of gratitude; but, saying that there could be no doubt of his sincerity, displayed no great oratorical talents. Brief, however, as his speeches, or rather ejaculations, were, the funny old gentleman stopped him by the apparently funny observation,—

"So, my good Jeremiah Wag, you don't know where your father came from?"

"No, sir, indeed," replied the shopkeeper, marvelling at the oddity of the question.

"Well, then, I do," said his benefactor; "I was determined to find it out, because the name is so uncommon. Hard work I had though.—Merchant, to whom he was clerk, dead. Son in the West Indies. Wrote. No answer for some time—then not satisfactory. Obliged to wait till he came back. Long talk. No use. Well, well. Tell you all about it another day. Cut it short now. Found out a person at last who was intimate friend and fellow-clerk with your father. Made all right. Went down into the north. Got his register."

"Really, sir," stammered Jeremiah, "it was very kind of you, but I am sorry you should have given yourself so much trouble; but I'm sure if I have any poor relations that I can be of service to in employing them, now that your bounty has put me in the way of doing well, I should be very glad, though I never did hear talk of any."

"No, Master Jeremiah," said the eccentric old gentleman, "you have no poor relations now, nor ever had; but your father had a good-for-nothing elder brother, who left home at an early age, after your grandmother's death, and was enticed to go abroad by fair promises, which were not fulfilled. So, not having any thing agreeable to write about, he didn't write at all, like a young scamp as he was, and when the time came that he had something pleasant to communicate, it was too late, as his father was no more, and his only brother (your father) was gone nobody knew where. Well, to make a short story of it, that chap, your uncle, was knocked about in the world, sometimes up and sometimes down, but at last found himself pretty strong upon his legs, and then made up his mind to come to Old England, where he found nobody to care for him and went wandering hither and thither, spending his time at watering-places, and so on, for several years."

"And pray, sir," enquired Jeremiah, as his respected guest paused, "have you any idea what became of him?"

"Yes, I have," replied the little gentleman, smiling significantly at his host and hostess, "one day he arrived in a smallish town, very like this, and terribly lowspirited he was, for he'd been ill some time before, and was fretting himself to think that he had been toiling to scrape money together, and was without children or kindred to leave it to. No very pleasant reflection that, my worthy Wags, let me tell you! Well, he ordered dinner, for form's sake, at the inn, and then went yawning about the room; and then he took his stand at the window, and, looking across the road, he saw the name of Wag over a shop-door, and then——you know all the rest! The fact is, I am a Wag, and Jeremiah Wag you are my nephew, and you, my dear Mrs. Wag, are my niece, and so let us be merry Wags together!

* * * * * * *

Here we might lay down the pen, were it not for our dislike to strut in borrowed plumes; and that inclineth us to inform the gentle reader that no part of this simple story is of our invention, except the last disclosure of the senior Wag's relationship to his namesake, which we ventured to add, fearing that the *truth* might appear *incredible*. The other facts occurred precisely as we have stated. An elderly gentleman, bearing a name more singular than Wag, returned home from India with a handsome fortune, somewhat more than half a century back, and sought in vain for relatives; but one day, from the window of an inn, at which he had arrived in his own dark green travelling chariot, he espied the shop of a namesake, whose acquaintance he instantly made. His expressed hope was to discover that they were connected by some distinct tie of consanguinity; but failing in that object, after most minute investigation, he never withdrew his patronage. For many years he watched over the rising fortunes of the family; and as the young people arrived at maturity, provided for them as though they were his own children, to the extent of many thousand pounds; and when he died, left among them the whole of his property. Now, though the heart and conduct of this good man were truly benevolent, there can be no question respecting the motive of his actions, for he often avowed it. He was determined to *keep up* the respectability of his *name;* and with great pleasure we have to record that the few who now bear it, move in a much higher circle than would have been their lot but for him whose memory they hold in reverence, and consider as the founder of their family. Reader! imitate him, and "keep up" the respectability of your name.

SHOP BREAKING. Some rogue entered the grocery shop of Wm. H. Reed, on Cumberland street, yesterday afternoon, and robbed the money drawer of about $25. The entrance was made at the back part of the shop, probably by the window—while Mr. Reed was temporarily absent from the premises. It was a bold trick to be done in broad day light. [State of Maine, 2d.

SERIOUS RAILROAD ACCIDENT. *Cincinnati, July 2.* The Cincinnati train on the Cincinnati and Marietta Railroad, while crossing the tressel work west of Marietta yesterday, had one car thrown from the track a distance of nearly 60 feet. There were thirty persons in the car, of whom four were killed and twenty wounded. Among the dead is Wm. G. Richardson of Boston.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE DRY DOCK AT THE CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD. The Department at Washington has had in contemplation for some time past, the extension of the stone dry dock at the Charlestown Navy Yard, for the purpose of admitting the largest class of men-of-war, which are now built of greater length than the former style of vessels. It having been decided to lengthen the dock about forty feet, ground was broken yesterday for that purpose, and the work will be prosecuted with vigor until its completion, which it is expected will be before cold weather sets in. The present dimensions of the dock are 228 feet in length, 30 feet in depth, and 86 feet in width.

The work on this splendid structure was commenced July 10, 1827, under the management of Col. Loammi Baldwin, the distinguished engineer, and Mr. Job Turner of Boston, master mason, and occupied six years in building, and the work has stood firm to this day. It cost the sum of $677,700, including the cost of the engine, engine house and pumping apparatus. This consists of a steam engine of sixty horse power, working eight pumps of thirty inches diameter, with three feet stroke, and will exhaust the dock of water in about four hours. The old frigate Constitution, under command of Commodore Hull, was the first vessel which entered the dock, on June 24, 1833, in presence of a vast concourse of people from Boston and the neighboring towns.

[Boston Courier.

A SNAKE STORY. A lad of twelve years of age, son of Jacob Reinhart, was fishing in Upton, Pa., a few days since, when a black snake suddenly whipped itself twice around his body, with such force as to throw him into the water, which was deep. A pole was thrust down to him, which struck him, and which he had presence of mind enough immediately to grasp, when he was drawn up. An attempt to grapple the snake proved unsuccessful, and resulted only in the operators getting their fingers bit. So tight was the reptile coiled, that it was necessary to turn a knife edgewise and use force to get it between the boy's clothes and the snake's skin; this accomplished, the sharp instrument was turned and a vigorous two-handed cut severed the unwholesome living girdle in twain. The snake was four and a half feet long.

MOVEMENT IN DRY GOODS. Yesterday forenoon a young man calling himself E. R. Bolton, of Portland, Maine, walked into Hosmer's store on Tremont Row, and purchased a bill of dry goods amounting to about $90. The bundle was made up and sent by a boy to the Adams House, where Bolton said his money was deposited, and where he would pay the bill. Arrived at this popular resort, the two went into Bolton's room where the goods were unpacked and again looked at, when saying he would just go down to the parlor with the goods, and get his mother's opinion as to a question of taste between two patterns, he left the room and the shop boy to take care of each other, and went his way. It seems as if his mother could not have been in the parlor as he stated, because instead of looking for her there he went direc ly out of the house and has not since been heard from. The boy after remaining in the room a reasonable time concluded that further waiting was useless, and returned to the store. [Boston Journal, 30th.

AUGUSTA PRICES CURRENT.
CORRECTED WEEKLY.

Flour,	$7 50 to 10 50	Round Hog,	$10 00 to 11 00
Corn Meal,	1 00 to 1 25	Clear Salt Pork,	12 00 to 14 00
Rye Meal,	1 33 to 0 00	Mutton,	6 to 8
Wheat,	1 75 to 1 80	Turkeys,	10 to 12
Rye,	1 10 to 1 25	Chickens,	10 to 12
Corn,	*1 05 to 1 12	Geese,	8 to 12
Beans,	1 50 to 2 00	Clover Seed,	12 to 15
Oats,	50 to 55	Herdsgrass,	3 00 to 3 50
Potatoes,	75 to 1 00	Red Top,	75 to 83
Dried Apples,	10 to 12	Hay,	9 00 to 11 00
Cooking "	33 to 40	Lime,	90 to 92
Winter "	60 to 75	Fleece Wool,	30 to 34
Butter,	16 to 18	Pulled Wool,	30 to 34
Cheese,	14 to 16	Lamb Skins,	35 to 50
Eggs,	14 to 15	Hides,	6 to 7
Lard,	10 to 17		

BRIGHTON MARKET, July 2.

At market, 1175 beef cattle, 3100 sheep, 1453 swine.

Prices—Beef Cattle.—Extra, $9 75 @ $10 00; first quality, $9 00 @ $9 50; second, $8 25 @ $8 75; third, $6 50 @ $7 75.

Working Oxen.—Sales from $120 to $170.

Cows and Calves.—Sales from $23 to $70.

Sheep.—Sales in lots, from $3 00 to $5 00.

Swine.—At retail, from 9 to 10 cents.

BOSTON MARKET, July 6.

FLOUR.—Sales of Western superfine at $7 00; fancy, $7 00 @ 7 50; extra, $7 75 @ $10 00.

GRAIN.—Corn—Sales of yellow flat at $1 @ $1; white at 94 @ 95. Oats—Northern at 65 cents. Rye, $1 25.

HAY.—Sales of Eastern at $16 @ $17 ₱ ton.

A PERFUMED BREATH. What lady or gentleman would remain under the curse of a disagreeable breath when by using the *Balm of a Thousand Flowers*, as a dentrifice would not only render it sweet but leave the teeth as white as alabaster? Many persons do not know that their breath is bad, and the subject is a delicate their friends will never mention it. Four a single drop of the "Balm" on your tooth brush, and wash your teeth night and morning. A fifty cent bottle will last a year.

A beautiful complexion can easily be acquired by using the "Balm of a Thousand Flowers." It will remove tan, pimples, and freckles from the skin, leaving it of a soft and delicate hue. Wet a towel, pour on two or three drops, and wash the face night and morning.

Shaving made Easy.—Wet your shaving brush in either warm or cold water, pour on two or three drops of the "Balm of a Thousand Flowers," rub the beard well, and it will make a beautiful lather, much facilitating the operation of shaving. Price only fifty cents.

For sale by all Druggists.

Beware of Counterfeits and Imitators. None genuine unless signed by FETRIDGE & CO., Proprietors, New York. 6m4

Among the many preparations now in use for restoring, preserving, and beautifying the Hair, there are none that we can recommend with more confidence than Prof. Woop's HAIR RESTORATIVE, now in general use through out the United States. This preparation possesses the most invigorating qualities, and never fails in producing the most happy results when applied according to directions. We refer to the innumerable certificates which have been sent by parties who have been benefited by it, and who daily happy to give its wonderful effects to the world. [Cincinnati Sun, Nov. 1st, 1854

Sold in Augusta by C. F. POTTER, and by Druggists throughout the United States. 3m22

To Nervous Sufferers.

A RETIRED CLERGYMAN, restored to health in a few days, after many years of great nervous suffering, is anxious to make known the means of cure. Will send free the prescription used. Direct the Rev. JOHN M. DAGNALL, No. 59 Fulton street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 3m22

Hymenial.

Till Hymen brought his love-delighted hour,
There dwelt no joy in Eden's peaceful bower;
The world was all—the garden was a wild—
And man, the hermit, sighed—till woman smiled!

In Hallowell, July 1st, Mr. WM. A. LEIGHTON of this city, to Miss JULIA B. HANSCOM.

In this city, July 5th, by Rev. I. H. Brown, Mr. CHARLES R. PARKHURST of this city, to Miss SARAH M. BALLARD.

In Boston, June 21st, Mr. SAMUEL W. GARDINER to Mrs. E. E. LAMSON, formerly of this city.

In Lynn, Mass., by Rev. Mr. Hooks, Mr. AARON D. NEAL of Readfield, to Miss MARTHA ABBIE ALLEY.

In Boston, June 6th, by Rev. Dr. King, Mr. ALBEE A. NICHOLS of Barre, Vt., to Miss LIZZIE C. MACY of Vassalboro'.

In Farmington, N. H., Mr. STEPHEN YOUNG of St. George, N. B., to Miss FANNY E. WOODSIDE of Brunswick, Me.

In Farmington, June 23d, Mr. GEO. L. HOSMER to Miss RUTH A. WELCH of Temple.

At Farmington Falls, Maj. ALPHEUS S. C. HALL to Miss SUSAN M. SPAULDING, both of Farmington.

In Dover, N. H., Mr. ALVIN C. S. MESERVE of Topsham, to Miss DORCAS J. SKELTON of Bowdoin.

In Bangor, July 2d, Mr. JOHN TURNER to Miss ANN MANLEY, both of Levant.

In Dover, Mr. BENJ. F. HAMMOND of Foxcroft, to Miss MARY A. CARR of Guilford.

In San Francisco, Mr. ISAAC W. ROSS to Miss SARAH E. MORSE, formerly of Bath; Mr. JAMES W. COX, formerly of Rockland, to Miss MAGGIE A. BARRET, formerly of New York.

Obituary.

Spirit! thy labor is o'er,
Thy term of probation is run,
Thy steps are now bound for the untrodden shore,
And the race of immortals begun.

In this city, June 27th, HIRAM JACKSON, aged 23.

In Mt. Vernon, June 21st, BETSY STONE, wife of Thomas Stone, aged 65 years 6 months. [Bangor papers please copy.

In Sidney, June 27th, LYDIA DYER, widow of the late Jona. Dyer, aged 76 years 11 months.

In Boston, July 3d, MARGARET G. CATE, widow of Daniel Cate, Esq., late of Dresden, aged 63.

In Cambridge, Story county, Iowa, June 10th, GEORGE A. MACY, oldest son of Capt. Richard Macy, late of Vassalboro', aged 27.

In Hallowell, June 13th, SARAH CUTLER, aged 80.

In Norway, Capt. ARTEMAS L. COOPER, formerly of Wrentham, Mass., aged about 54.

In Madison, June 24th, EBENEZER DEAN, aged 93 years and 6 months.

In Belfast, June 27th, Mrs. SARAH SYLVESTER of Freedom, aged 70.

At sea, on the passage from Shanghai to Manilla, Capt. LEWIS MOORES of Gardiner, master of ship Eagle, of New York, aged about 35.

In Pittston, LIZZIE A. KIDDER, adopted daughter of Llewellyn Kidder, aged 19.

In North Yarmouth, MARY BAKER, widow of the late Col. Samuel Baker, aged 90.

In Freeport, June 28th, Mrs. MINERVA A. GRIFFIN, aged 24 years.

Drowned, in New York, June 26th, Capt. MILES S. YORK of North Yarmouth.

At Chincha Islands, Peru, May 22d, Capt. E. D. FALES of Thomaston, late Master of ship Mayflower of Bath.

CHOICE FAMILY FLOUR.

30 BBLS. George H. Ely Double Extra Genesee Flour;
40 do. Alfred Smith " " " "
50 do. E. C. Frost " " Ohio " "
50 do. Franklin Mills " " " "
50 do. Clifton Mills Fancy " " "

Now in store, and for sale at wholesale and retail, low for cash only, at No. 1 Smith's Block, by ARNO A. BITTUES.
Augusta, July 7, 1857. 29

Hay Presses.

FOR a Descriptive Circular, with Cut and Price List of

Fay's Portable Hand-Power Hay, Cotton and Cider Presses,

23tf Address C. J. FAY, North Lincoln.

LIME AND CEMENT, constantly on hand and for sale at wholesale and retail, by ARNO A. BITTUES.

J. WILLIAMS & CO.,

DEALERS IN

SEA COAL, IRON AND STEEL,
Malleable Castings, Cable Chains, Hinges, Bolts, Screws, &c. &c.

J. WILLIAMS, H. M. WENTWORTH.

Blacksmiths, and others wishing to purchase any of the above articles, are invited to call, as we are bound to sell as cheap as can be bought elsewhere.

ELLIPTIC, SLIDE and SEAT SPRINGS made to order.
Readfield Corner, July 6th, 1857. 29tf

First Class Family Journals.

LIFE ILLUSTRATED: A First Class Pictorial Paper, weekly. $2 a year; $1 for half a year.
WATER-CURE JOURNAL: Devoted to the Laws of Life and Health. $1 a year.
PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL: Devoted to the Improvement of mankind. $1 a year. The three Journals sent one year for $3. Address FOWLER & WELLS,
2w29 No. 308 Broadway, N. Y.

Extra Quality Codfish.

20 QTLS. very nice Isle of Shoals Codfish, expressly for the City Retail Trade, just received and for sale by
22 ARNO A BITTUES.

KENNEBEC, SS.—*At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the fourth Monday of June, A. D.* 1857.

CYRUS GUILD, Executor of the last Will and Testament of

CYRUS GUILD, late of Augusta,

in said County, deceased, having presented his first account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance:

ORDERED, That the said Executor give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Augusta, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said County, on the fourth Monday of July next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

A true copy. Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 29

FARM FOR SALE.

PLEASANTLY SITUATED on the eastern side of Sheepscot River in Whitefield, in the County of Lincoln, nearly equidistant from King's Mills and Turner's Mills, so called, a Farm containing about 120 acres; cuts about 30 tons of English hay; good pasturage, and a good wood lot; an orchard of grafted fruit, and a good well of water near the buildings—dwelling house, ell and other buildings all in good repair; two barns and shed, all well finished and in good repair; about 30 rods to a new and commodious school-house, with a hall in the attic finished to accommodate social and religious meetings. Any person about to purchase a farm, will do well to visit the premises, where he will find the subscriber, and get further information if desired. Terms reasonable. STUDLEY BISBEE.
Whitefield, July 1st, 1857. 3w29

PATENT GOLD HAMMERED SCYTHES,

for sale by 2w29 JOHN MEANS & SON.

Stray Mare and Colt.

TAKEN UP this day, on the premises of the subscriber, a dapple gray horse, with black mane and tail, about six years old. Also, a colt, about a year old, half colt, of a red color. The owner will please call, prove property, and take them away. B. F. CARR.
East Winthrop, July 6, 1857. 3w29

Tax Collector's Notice.

THE TAXES of the town of SIDNEY for the year 1857, having been committed to me for collection, I would hereby notify all tax payers that a discount of six per cent. will be made on all taxes paid previous to the 26th of July; five per cent. on those paid after July 26 and previous to the 25th of August; and four per cent. on all paid after Aug. 25 and previous to Oct. 24.

FREDERIC R. SHERMAN,
June 27th, 1857. 3w28 *Coll. 4 Precs. of Sidney.*

Dissolution.

THE copartnership heretofore existing between the subscribers under the firm of PORTER & BEAN, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to us are earnestly requested to call and settle their accounts without delay. ORESTES H. PORTER,
MOSES T. BEAN.

Mt. Vernon, June 22, 1857. 28

FOURTH THOUSAND.

INCIDENTS
In White Mountain History,
AND GUIDE.

12mo, Cloth, 325 pp. Illustrated. Price $1.

THIS is the best and fullest guide to this romantic region. [Evening Traveller.

It will add a hundred fold to the interest of a White Mountain tour. [Zion's Herald.

There are few romances of more thrilling interest. [Hallows Falls Argus.

A most interesting book to those even who cannot visit the mountains. [Independent Democrat, Concord.

The novel reader will here find truths stranger than fiction," and more exciting. [Christian Mirror, Portland.

It is the most agreeable local hand-book we have ever received, and is useful, because it is filled with information, not only for tourists, but for the numerous class called stay-at-home travelers. [New York Times.

To those who ever expect to visit the Mountains it is almost indispensable, and to those who do not it is a very cheap substitute for a visit. The facts are valuable, and the scenery described is unique and sublime. [Christian Herald, Cincinnati.

It will be sent by mail, free of postage. Agents wanted to sell it everywhere. Circulars giving table of contents sent free to all who wish to examine.

NATHANIEL NOYES, Publisher,
4w28 11 Cornhill, Boston.

Flour, Corn and Cement.

100 BBLS EXTRA GENESEE FLOUR;
50 do. Double Extra do. do;
200 do. Extra Ohio do;
3000 bush. Prime Mixed Mealing Corn;
200 bbls. new Rosendale Cement.

Cargo of Sch. Adelza from New York, now landing, and for sale low for cash, by ARNO A. BITTUES.
July 1st, 1857. 28

North Somerset Agricultural Society.

THE Directors offer the following premiums on Fields of Grass: The best field of grass of at least three acres, $3; 2d, $2; 3d, $1.

WILLIAM ATKINSON,
B. F. LEADBETTER,
LUTHER PIERCE,
} Awarding Committee.

The grass to be examined by the Committee before it is cut, and competitors are requested to notify the Committee as soon as convenient. O. R. BACHELLER, Sec'y.
June 27, 1857. 3w28

HACKER & FREEBORN,

Real Estate Brokers & Commission Merchants,
WEST SECOND STREET,
SUPERIOR, DOUGLASS CO., WIS.,

WILL attend to Loaning Money on first Mortgages. Also, Buying and Selling Mineral, Farming, Timber and Wild Lands, and City and Village Lots; Locating Land Warrants; collecting Bills; paying Taxes; investigation of Titles; examination of property, &c.

References:

J. & R. Peckham, Agent Pacific Mfg.

The Muse.

THE RAIN.

Dusty lies the village turnpike, and the upland fields are dry,
While the river, inly sighing, creeps in stealthy marches by,
And the clouds, like spectral Druids, in their garments old and gray,
Sweeping through the saddened silence, fold their sainted palms and pray.
As their tears of tender pity, soft and chrismal, trance the plain,
All the birds like sweet mouthed minstrels, blend their tuneful notes again,
With the tinkling and the sprinkling
Of the gentle summer rain.

Tangled in the dreamy meshes of the soft and slumbrous haze,
How the rain drops thrill the spirit in the mild September days;
Pouring on the golden-tinted, autumn splendor of the leaves,
Rustling through the yellow grain fields and the reapers' standing sheaves—
How they swell the silver streamlets, how they brim the land with glee!
So our lives shall brim with pleasure, pulsing like a living sea,
At the clattering and the pattering
Of the joyous autumn rain.

Sadly as when harp strings quiver, wildly as a wail of doom,
Unappeased the night wind surges through the elemental gloom.
All the inner light is winsome though the outer dark be chill,
And my passing thoughts are fancies of a balm-entranced will—
I will charm the fleet-winged hours, they shall fold their pinions fair,
While I sit and weirdly listen, reading legends old and rare,
To the roaring and the pouring
Of the noisy winter rain.

SUMMER MORNING.

The morning hath not lost her virgin blush,
Nor step, but mine, soiled the earth's tinsell'd robe.
How full of heaven this solitude appears,
This healthful comfort of the happy swain;
Who from his hard but peaceful bed roused up,
In his morning's exercise saluted is
By a full choir of feathered choristers,
Wedding their notes to the enamored air!
Here nature in her unaffected dress
Plaited with valleys, and embossed with hills
Enchased with silver streams, and fringed with woods,
Sits lovely in her native russet.

[Chamberlayne.

The Story Teller.

From Blackwood's Magazine.

THE WAG FAMILY.

In a town which we will call Middletown, because it was of the middle size, dwelt a worthy shopkeeper, bearing the odd name of Jeremiah Wag. By dealing in all sorts of commodities, and steady attention to his business, he had managed to keep up his respectability, and doubtless would have considerably increased his store, but for the gradual increase of his family. For several years after his marriage, a new little Wag was ushered annually into the world; and though there had latterly been somewhat less of regularity, as many as ten small heads might be counted every evening in his back parlor. Jerry, the eldest boy, was, however, almost fourteen years of age, and therefore began to "make himself useful," by carrying out small parcels, and assisting behind the counter. All the rest were, to use their parents' phrase, "dead stock," and "were eating their heads off;" for, sooth to say, they were a jolly little set, and blessed with most excellent appetites. Such was the state of family matters, at the time when our narrative commences.

Now, on the opposite side of the street, exactly facing the modest board on which Jeremiah's name was painted, with the usual announcement of certain commodities in which he dealt, was another board of a very different description. On it were emblazoned the arms of his Majesty, with the supporters, a lion and a unicorn, as the country folks said, "a fighting for the crown."

The establishment indicated by this display was upheld by a very different class of customers to that which patronized the shop. Two or three times in each day some private carriage or post-chaise would stop at the King's Arms, and occasionally "a family" took up their quarters there for the night; but the latter was a piece of good luck not often to be expected, as there were no lions to be seen in Middletown, save the red rampant guardian on the sign-board.

It was hay-making time, and business was very "slack," with the worthy Jeremiah; but he said that he didn't care much about it, as the country folks were earning money, part of which he trusted would find its way into his till in due course. So after rummaging about among his stock, to see if he was "out of any thing," he took his stand at the door, just to breathe a mouthful of fresh air. Titus Twist, the landlord, made his appearance at the same moment, in his own gateway, apparently with the same salubrious intent, and immediately beckoned to his neighbor just to step across.

"Well, how are ye, Master Wag?" said he, when they met. "Did you observe that green chariot that stands down in the yard there, and came in more than an hour ago?" Jeremiah answered in the negative. "Well," continued mine host, "it belongs to one of the oddest, funniest, little old gentlemen I ever clapped my eyes on. He's been asking me all sorts of questions, and seems mightily tickled with your name above all things. I think he's cracked. Howsomever, he's ordered dinner. But hush! here he comes."

The little gentlemen in question seemed between sixty and seventy; but, excepting a certain sallowness of complexion, carried his years well, his motions being lively, and wearing a good humored smile, as though habitual, on his countenance. His dress was plain, but good, and altogether becoming his apparent rank.

"I shall be back in a quarter of an hour," said he to the landlord; "I'm only going over the way to buy something"; and away he went, and, of course, was followed by Jeremiah, who, immediately on entering his own house, skipped nimbly behind the counter, to wait on his new customer.

After trying on some gloves, and purchasing two pairs, the little strange gentleman looked round the shop, as though examining its contents to find something he wanted.

"Any thing else I can do for you, sir?" asked Jeremiah.

"You sell almost every thing, I see, Mr. Wag?" observed the old gentleman. "Mr. Wag? your name *is* Wag, I suppose?"

"Yes, sir," replied the shop-keeper, drily.

"Wag, Wag, Wag!" repeated the stranger, briskly. "Funny name, eh?"

"It was my father's before me," observed Jeremiah, scarcely knowing what to think of the matter.

"Very good name!" continued the little gentleman; "like it very much. Got any children? Any little Wags, eh? Let me see 'em. Fond of children—little Wags in particular. He, he, he!"

"Much obliged to yo for inquiring, sir," replied the senior Wag; "I've got just half a score, 'sorted sizes. That's the eldest," and he pointed to young Jerry, whose lanky limbs were at the moment displayed, spread eagle fashion, against the shelves, from the topmost of which he was reaching down some commodity for a customer.

"That's right. "Bring 'em up to industry," said the little gentleman. "Well, I can't stay now, because my dinner's ready; but I see you sell Irish linen, and I want a piece for shirts; so, perhaps, you'll be so good as look me out a good one, and bring it over to me."

"You may rely," commenced Mr. Wag; but his new customer cut him short by adding, "I know that well enough," as he briskly made his exit.

The industrious shop-keeper forthwith selected certain of his primest articles, folded them in a wrapper, and, at the appointed time, carried the whole across to the King's Arms.

He was immediately ushered into the presence of the eccentric elderly gentleman who was seated alone, behind a bottle of white and a bottle of red. "Suppose you've dined, Master Wag;" said he, "So come; no ceremony; sit down and take a glass of wine."

"I'm very much obliged to you, I'm sure, sir," replied Jeremiah, "but I've just brought over half a dozen pieces of Irish linen for you to look at and choose."

"Phoo, phoo!" quoth the small stranger; "I don't want to see them. I know nothing about 'em. Leave all to you. Only meant to have had a piece; but as you have brought half a dozen, I may as well take 'em. 'Store's no sore,' they say. There's a fifty pound note! Reckon 'em up, and see if there's any change."

Jeremiah started at this upusual wholesale mode of dealing, stammered his thanks, and observed that the goods would not amount to half the money.

"So much the worse," said the little gentleman. "Must see if I can't buy something in your line presently; but sit down now—that's a good fellow; I want to have some talk with you."

The bashful shopkeeper hereupon perched himself on the extreme front edge of a chair, at a respectful distance from the table; but was told to draw up closer by his hospitable entertainer. Then they took three or four glasses of wine together, and gradually Jeremiah found himself more at home, and scrupled not to reply to the odd stranger's questions respecting his family and occupations; and so they went on chatting till they appeared as two very old and intimate friends; for Mr. Wag was of an open, unsuspecting disposition, and talked as though he had no objection that all the world should know all about his affairs.

"Well, but, my dear Wag," said the stranger, "can't you tell what part of the country your father came from?"

"No sir, I can't, replied Jeremiah, "he died when I was about eight years old, and the London merchant to whom he was clerk put me to school, and after that apprenticed me to old Hicks, who lived over the way where I do now. Well, there I served my time, and married his daughter, and so came in for the business when he died; and if I'd more capital, could make a snug thing of it, by going into the wholesale, and serving village shops with groceries, and so on."

"Why don't you try it?" asked the little gentleman.

"It won't do, unless one has got the *ready* to go to market with," replied Jeremiah, knowingly; "and then one must be able to give credit, and ought to keep one's own wagon to carry out goods. No, no, it won't do. Many a man has made bad worse, by getting out of depth, and thank God, I *can live*. The only thing that puzzles me now and then is, what I shall do with all the children."

"Hark ye, my worthy Wag," said the odd stranger, "I have not got any children; so, if you'll let me pick among the lot, I don't care if I take two or three off your hands."

"Sir!" exclaimed the astonished shop-keeper.

"I mean what I say," replied the old gentleman, demurely. "Take me with you. Introduce me to your wife and family, and let us all have a friendly cup of tea together in your back parlor. Don't stare, my good Wag; but fill your glass. I don't want to buy your little Wags, but I happen to have more of the ready, as you call it, than I want; so I'll put them to school, or what you like. What say you?"

Jeremiah rubbed his eyes, as though doubtful if he were awake, and then uttered his thanks for such extraordinay kindness, in the best way he was able; and about an hour after, the whimsical little old rich gentleman was sitting by the side of Mrs. Wag, with a little curly-headed Wag on each knee, while the rest were playing round, or gazing open-mouthed at the stranger, with childish wonder.

By degrees all stiffness wore off; and, before the evening concluded, nothing could exceed the merriment of the whole party. The eccentric elderly gentleman had learned to call all the Wags by their names, and he played, and frolicked, and rolled upon the floor with the little people, in a style that made the parents suspect with the landlord, that he must be "cracked."

However, at parting, he became more serious, and invited Jeremiah to come and breakfast with him in the morning, and to bring with him a copy of the names and birth-days of his children, as entered in the family bible.

Mr. and Mrs. Wag, of coure, lay awake for an hour that night, talking over the strange incidents of the day, and perhaps building a few castles in the air, after the style of affectionate parents for their children.

On the following morning, Jeremiah dressed himself in his Sunday suit, and repaired to fulfill his engagement. His new old friend received him in the most cordial manner, and they breakfasted together, chatting over family concerns as on the preceding day. When their repast was ended, the little gentleman read over the list of young Wags, smilingly observing, "A jolly set of them! We must contrive to make them all good and happy Wags, if we can, eh? Eldest, Jerry, almost fourteen—useful to you in business. That's right. Leave him there, eh? Next, Thomas, almost thirteen—fond of reading—told me so. A good school first, eh? Then three girls running—Mary, Anne, and Fanny. Pack them off to a good school, too. Never mind. Then comes William, eight, and Stephen, seven. Think I know where to place them; just the right age. Perhaps can't do it at once, though. That's all I can take *at present*. The other three—Sarah, Henry and Philip—too young. Well, my worthy Wag, you will hear about what I mean to do with them before long, and a friend of mine will call upon you some day, to consult upon the best way of increasing your business. Settle all in time. No more to say now, but good bye, eh? Paid the landlord's bill before breakfast, 'cause don't like to be kept waiting. Didn't mean to have stopped longer than to exchange horses, when I came yesterday. Glad I have, though. Hope you won't be sorry. Hallo, waiter! is my carriage ready?" "At the door, sir," shouted the landlord, in reply. "That's right!" exclaimed the extraordinary elderly gentleman. "Good bye, my worthy Wag. Remember me to Mrs. Wag, and give my love to all the little Wags—ten besides yourselves! A dozen Wags in one family! Never expected to see such a sight as that! He, he, he! See it again, though, hope. Wag together, all of you, like a bundle of sticks, hope!" And laughing, and uttering similar incoherent sentences alternately, he walked briskly along the passage to his carriage, into which he forthwith jumped, and, having repeated his valediction to the astounded shopkeeper, ordered the postilion to drive on.

Thus Jeremiah was prevented from expressing his grateful feeling for such wonderful promises, and so stood gaping in silence till the carriage was out of sight.

"Why, you seem regularly 'mazed, neighbor!" exclaimed the landlord.

"Enough to make me," replied Mr. Wag. "If one half what I have heard this morning should come true, I shall be a lucky fellow, that's all!"

"The old fellow's cracked," observed Titus Twist. "He's a gentleman, every inch of him, that I will say for him. Didn't make a word about nothing. All right. Used to good living, no doubt. More's the pity, as he's cracked. He certainly ought not to be allowed to travel without a servant, as he does."

"Well," observed Jeremiah, "I don't know what to say or what to think about it; but, if he is cracked—humph! I don't know. It may be so. However, there's no harm done yet."

"So he's been cramming you, eh?" said mine host. "Made you a present of the moon, perhaps? They do fancy strange things, and think themselves kings, and very rich in particular."

The truth of this latter assertion made an impression upon our worthy shop-keeper, who communicated it to his wife; but she had taken a great fancy to the odd old gentleman, and was not to be shaken in her conviction that he would really be "as good as his word."

"Well," observed her husband, time will show; and, at all events, it was no bad thing to sell six pieces of fine linen at once. We don't have such customers every day. However, the best thing we can do is to keep our own secret; for if the neighbors were to hear of it, we should never hear the last of it."

Mrs. Wag agreed in the propriety of her husband's suggestion; but nevertheless was unable to refrain from dropping hints to sundry gossips, concerning her anticipations of coming good fortune; and the vagueness and mysterious importance of her manner created a sensation, and caused many strange surmises. Some decided that the Wags had been so imprudent as to purchase a whole lottery ticket, and blamed them accordingly; while others shook their heads, and hinted that, with so large a family, it would be a very fortunate circumstance if Jeremiah could manage so as not to go back in the world; and, for their parts, they never liked to hear folks talk mysteriously about good luck. So, for some time, the stranger's visit appeared to have produced results somewhat the reverse of beneficial. But, at the end of a month, an elderly gentleman dressed in black, entered the shop, and requested a private interview with Mr. Wag; and, as the back parlor was full of little Wags, then undergoing the ceremonies of ablution, combing, &c., he proposed that they should adjourn to the King's Arms.

When they were seated there, the stranger very deliberately proceeded to arrange a variety of papers upon the table in a business-like manner; and when his task was completed, apparently to his satisfaction, he smiled, rubbed his hands, and thus addressed the wondering shop-keeper:

"My name is Stephen Goodfellow. I am an attorney, living in London, and there (handing a card) is my address. You will probably guess who is my client, but my instructions are to conceal his name. Well, he has consulted with me as to the best mode of carrying your intention of increasing your business into effect, and I have consequently had interviews with certain commercial gentlemen; and, ahem! the result is, that as the thing must be done gradually, I have to present you, in the first place, with this order for a thousand pounds. You will then be so good as to sign this document, by reading which you will perceive that you *cannot* be called upon for re-payment before the expiration of three years. Ahem! don't interrupt me. That will do to begin with; but, after a little while, as you must give credit, and some of your commodities, particularly groceries, amount to considerable sums, you may want more. So—ahem!—yes, this is the paper. You are to put your usual signature here; and, mark me, in precisely six months from this day, an account will be opened in your name with the London bankers, whose check-book I now present you with. They will have assets in their hands, and instructions to honor your drafts for any sum or sums not exceeding four thousand pounds. You understand?"

"I hear what you say, sir," stammered Jeremiah; "but really, sir, I'm so much astonished that——"

"Well, well," observed Mr. Goodfellow, smiling, "it certainly is not an everyday transaction; but my respected client is a little eccentric, and so we must allow him to do things in his own way. He has taken a fancy to you, that's clear; and when he takes anything in hand, he doesn't mind trifles."

"But so much!" exclaimed Mr. Wag. "One thousand, four thousand, five thousand pounds! It is like a dream! Surely, sir," and he hesitated, "surely the gentleman can't be in—ahem!—in—his—right senses?"

"Sound as a bell," replied the lawyer. "I hope you may have as clear a head to carry on your new business. At present you are a little bewildered, that's plain enough; but that's no marvel. However, my time is precious; so just let me have your signature, and I'm off."

"He then placed the papers before Jeremiah, who, after a little more demur, and a great deal of trepidation, wrote his name twice, and received the money order and the banker's check-book. Mr. Goodfellow then ordered a chaise, and chatted familiarly till it was ready, when he shook Mr. Wag by the hand, wished him good luck, and departed.

"I told you so!" exclaimed Mrs. Wag, when her spouse related the morning's adventure. "He seemed so fond of the children. I knew how it would be. But you should have asked his name. I wonder he can be! Some great lord, no doubt. Well, bless him, I say! God bless him, whoever he is. Oh, Jerry! my dear Jerry Wag! I was a going to cry. How foolish! Well, I can't help it, and that's the truth;" and the good housewife wiped her eyes, and then threw her arms round the neck of her dearly beloved. Wag, albeit that he was unused to the melting mood, found his eyes suddenly grow dim, and so they performed a weeping duet together.

It is pleasant to record, that, at the termination of this natural paroxysm, they neglected not to return thanks to a higher Power for the wonderful change that had thus suddenly taken place in their prospects.

Their subsequent task was to take counsel together; but that was a work requiring more of calmness than they possessed for the first few days. However, by degrees, as time rolled on, the industrious couple made their arrangements, and, at the end of six months, Mr. Wag had so increased his business, that it became advisable for him to have recourse to his London bankers. In the meanwhile, he had sent his son Tom and the three eldest girls to school, agreeably to the intimation of his unknown friend, which he considered as a command that he was in duty bound to comply with. Still it appeared very extraordinary that the little elderly gentleman neither communicated with nor came to see them; but, as the whole affair was out of the common way, Jeremiah resolved industriously to avail himself of the advantages of his new position, as the best means of testifying his gratitude during his benefactor's absence.

Much marvelling, of course, there was, in the town and neighborhood, at the steady increase in Mr. Wag's "concern," in spite of his very plain statement that a kind friend had advanced him a considerable sum.

"Who could that friend be?" was the puzzling question which no one could answer; but his unremitting attention to business, the punctuality of his payments, and other evidences of his prosperity, sufficed to ensure him general respect, though certain envious busy-bodies would venture now and then to hint significantly, that "all is not gold that glistens."

So matters went on pleasantly with the Wags till winter, when Tom and his three sisters came home for the holidays, and the latter assisted their mother in preparing for the festivities of the season.

It was Christmas eve, and the whole of the family were congrgated in the little back parlor, when young Jerry started up at the well-known sound of a customer at the shop-door, at which he arrived with a hop, skip and jump; and jerking it open, beheld a little old gentleman, wrapped in a large cloak.

"Please to walk in, sir," said Jerry Wag.

"Hush!" whispered the stranger, placing his fore finger on his mouth. "I want to surprise them. You're all together to-night, I suppose?"

"Yes sir," replied Jerry, smiling, for he thought he knew to whom he was speaking.

"That's right," said the old elderly gentleman, advancing cautiously towards the darkest part of the shop and throwing off his cloak.—"Now for a Christmas frolic! Come here, you rogue! Why, you've grown taller than me.—That's right— a thriving Wag! Now mind; you go back as if nothing had happened, and give me hold of your coat tail, so that I can't be seen. That'll do. No laughing, you young monkey. There, step along."

Jerry did as he was bid, save that, though he bit his lips unmercifully, his risible muscles would not remain inactive; and thus the oddly joined pair made their way into the family apartment just as the eldest daughter had exclaimed, "Now mamma, it's your turn to wish!"

They were sitting in a semi-circle before the fire, and the stranger and his shield, of course, stood behind them.

"Heigho!" said Mrs. Wag, "there's only one thing I wish for to-night, and that is the addition of *one* more to our party."

"Name! Name! You must name your wish!" cried three or four juvenile voices, in full glee.

"I wish I could tell you his name," said Mrs. Wag; "but your father knows who I mean. Don't you, my dear?"

"I can't mistake you, my love," replied Jeremiah, affectionately, "and I wish he could see how happy you are. It would do his heart good, I really think."

"Who *can* he be?" exclaimed the eldest daughter.

"Perhaps it's somebody like me!" cried the little odd gentleman, stepping briskly forward.

"It is! It is!" shricked mamma, and up jumped the whole party, and down went Mrs. Wag upon her knees, while, utterly unconscious of what she did, her arms were clasped round the neck of her benefactor, whose bodily frame, being unable to sustain her matronly weight, gave way, and so they rolled together on the floor.

"Ha, ha, ha!" laughed the eccentric elderly gentleman, as soon as he recovered breath, but without attempting to rise. "This is a Christmas gambol, eh! Master Wag? Eh! my merry little Wags? Needn't ask you all how you are."

"My dear sir!" exclaimed Jeremiah, "allow me to assist you. I hope you are not hurt."

"Hurt!" cried the little gentleman, jumping up and offering his hand to Mrs. Wag. "Hurt! Why I feel myself twenty years younger than I did five minutes ago. Never mind, ma'am. Like Christmas gambols. Always did. Happen to have such a thing as a bunch of mistletoe, eh?"

"I am sure, sir," whimpered Mrs. Wag—"I am sure I shall never forgive myself. To think of taking such a liberty; I—I—can't conceive how I could"—

"As often as ever you please, my good lady," said the eccentric, handing her to a chair; "but sit down, and compose yourself, while I shake hands all round." And, turning towards Jeremiah, he commenced the ceremony, which he went through with from the eldest to the youngest, calling them all by their names, as correctly as though he were a constant visitor.

A right merry Christmas eve was that. The young Wags were, ever and anon, obliged to hold their sides, as they laughed and screamed with delight at the funny stories told by the funny little gentleman, who romped and played with them with as much glee as though he had been the youngest of the party. So the hours passed quickly away till the unwelcome sound of 'bedtime' was whispered among the little circle; and then one after another departed, until Mr. and Mrs. Wag were left alone with their honored guest.

The hearts of both were full, and they began to express their feelings; but the singular old gentleman stopped them by saying—"Needn't tell me. Know it all. Shall run away if you go on so. Remember, I told you I had more of the 'ready' than I knew what to do with. Couldn't have done better with it, eh? Out at interest now. Best sort of interest, too. More pleasure this evening than receiving dividends, eh? Never was happier. So come, let us wind up for the night. I've a memorandum or two for you in my pocket-book," and he placed it on the table, and began to turn over divers papers, as he continued—"Hem! ha! sir. They'll admit William and Stephen to Christ Church—what they call the blue-coat school. Capital school, eh?"

"My dear sir!" exclaimed Jeremiah.

"Don't interrupt me, that's a good fellow," said the old gentleman. "Hem! do you ever smoke a pipe?"

"Very rarely," replied the wondering Mr. Wag.

"Well," continued his guest, "take that paper to light your next with. Put it in your pocket, and don't look at it till I'm gone. Hem! Tom's master says he will make a good scholar, so, if you have no objection, I was thinking he might as well go to college in a year or two. Not in your way, perhaps? Never mind. I know some of the big-wigs. See all right, and enter his name. *Should* have one parson in a large family, eh?"

Here Mrs. Wag could no longer refrain from giving vent to her over charged feelings by certain incoherent ejaculations, which terminated in a flood of tears.

"Humph!" said the old gentleman, "my spectacles want wiping;" and he took the opportunity of rubbing them and blowing his nose, while Jeremiah was confronting the wife of his bosom, and telling her not to be so foolish, although he could scarcely avoid snivelling himself.

"Hem! ahem!" resumed their guest;—"think I've got some of the mince pie sticking in my throat. Stupid old fellow to eat so much, eh?"

"Better take another glass of wine, sir," said Jeremiah. "Give me leave, sir, to pour it out."

"No, no!" exclaimed Mrs. Wag, starting up and smiling through her tears, "let me!—Nobody else! God bless you, sir."

"And you, too!" ejaculated the old gentleman gaily; "come, that's a challenge! Glasses round! and then we must say, good night. Don't let us make dull end of a merry evening."

Warm benedictions were forthwith uttered, and the "compliments of the season" were wished with more than common sincerity, by all three, as their glasses met jingling together. Then, the whimsical guest tossed off his wine, jumped up, shook his hosts heartily by the hand, wished them good night, and sallied into the shop to find his cloak. Mr. and Mrs. Wag followed, and expressed a hope that he would honor their Christmas dinner by his presence on the following day; but all they could draw from him was,—'Can't promise. Ate and drank a little too much last night, perhaps. Getting shocking old. See how I am in the morning. Enjoyed myself this evening. A jolly set of Wags altogether. Merry Wags, all, eh? Young and old. Well, well, wag along happily, my dear Mr. and Mrs. Wag. Good night,' and after once more shaking hands with them, he nimbly whisked himself out at the shop door, and trotted across to the King's Arms.

No sooner were the worthy couple alone, than curiosity led them to examine the piece of paper which their benefactor had presented to Jeremiah for the purpose of lighting his pipe; and it proved to be the promissory note which the latter had signed for the first thousand pounds. The donor's intention was plain enough, as it was regularly cancelled, so Mrs. Wag was obliged to use her pocket-handkerchief once more; and her spouse, after striding three or four times rapidly across the room, felt himself also under the necessity of taking out his, and blowing his nose with unusual vehemence. Then they congratulated and comforted each other, and said their prayers, and offered up their thanksgivings with a fervor and sincerity that proved they were not unworthy of their good fortune. Then they retired to rest, though not immediately to sleep, for they were each beset by strange waking dreams, and beheld in their mind's eye, a black clerical Wag, two long-coated little blue Wags, with yellow nether investments, and other Wags of sorted sizes but all very happy.

On the following morning, being Christmas day, our fortunate shopkeeper equipped him in his apparel, and, before breakfast, stepped across the road, and found Mr. Titus Twist rubbing his eyes in his own gate-way. Mutual salutations, and "compliments of the season," were exchanged in good neighborly style, and then mine host exclaimed, "There's a box here for you, Master Wag, left by that queer little old gentleman. I'm sure he's cracked! In he comes here yesterday just after dark, posting in his own carriage. Well he orders up anything as we happened to have ready, and I sets him down to as good a dinner as ever a gentleman need to sit down to, though I say it, because why, you see, our larder's pretty considerably well stocked at this season. So down he sits, rubbing his hands, and seeming as pleased as Punch, and orders a bottle of wine; but before he'd been ten minutes at table, up he jumps, claps on his cloak and hat, and runs smack out o' the house, and never comes back again till past eleven at night, when he pays his bill, and orders horses for six o'clock this morning."

"Is he gone, then?" exclaimed Jeremiah.

"Off, sure enough," replied Titus; "but he's left a great box for you, which I was just going to send over. So, I suppose you and he have some dealings together."

"Yes," said Mr. Wag, "I shall have cause to bless and thank him the latest day I have to live; but I wish he had stopped here to-day. Well, God bless him, wherever he's gone. Hark ye, neighbor—you have often heard me speak of having a friend—well, that's him. I don't know why, but he's taken a fancy to me and my wife and family, and has done for us more than you'd believe, if I was to tell you. However, we can chat that over another day, as I can't stop now, as Mrs. Wag and the children are waiting breakfast. But where's the box? I'll take it with me if you please."

"If two of the strongest fellows in my yard can take it over, it's as much as they can," replied Titus. "However, they shall try; and I hope you'll come over this afternoon and crack a bottle of my best to drink the little queer old gentleman's health. But, mind me, he's cracked to a certainty, and you'll find it out some of these days."

The box was accordingly delivered, and, on being opened was found to contain a dozen separate packages, each directed to one member of the Wag family, the largest for Jeremiah, the father, and the smallest for little Philip, a "rising three" year old Wag. Their contents were far too various for precise specification, but could not have been more judiciously appropriated nor more gratefully received, so that Christmas day was a day of rejoicing; and the only regret felt by one and all the Wags was, that their very kind friend had not stayed to spend it with them.

When the festive season was over, matters went on as usual with Jeremiah, save that perhaps there was more of cheerfulness in his manner while pursuing his course of steady industry.—The fact was, that he never now felt perplexed about money affairs, which were wont formerly to occupy much of his time by day, and cause him many sleepless hours by night. Those who called for payment were as welcome as those who came to pay, and consequently his credit stood high; and the travellers and London houses strove by tempting bargains and peculiar attention in "selecting the best articles, to complete his kind orders," to keep his name upon their books. So he went on and prospered in all his undertakings and in the course thereof visited the metropolis to make purchase, and, when there, called upon Mr. Goodfellow, who gave him a hearty welcome but could not be persuaded to reveal the name of his eccentric client, though he scrupled not to say that he was in good health, adding, with a smile, "and in perfect possession of his intellect."

Jeremiah next endeavored to worm the secret from his bankers, but with no better success. The partner who received him, assured him that the steady increase and respectability of his account had wrought an impression in a quarter which he was not permitted to name, that their house would feel much pleasure in making advances, whenever anything advantageous offered itself for purchase.

"It is wonderful!" exclaimed Jeremiah.

A good character, my dear sir," observed the banker, "is everything in trade. We are dealers in money; and nothing pleases us more than placing it where we know it is safe, and have every reason to suppose it may be useful."

[CONCLUDED ON THIRD PAGE.]

GEN. LEE one day found Dr. Cutting, the army surgeon, who was a handsome and dressy man, complacently arranging his cravat before a glass. "Cutting," said Lee, "you must be the happiest man in creation." "Why, general?" "Because," replied Lee, "you are in love with yourself, and you have not a rival upon earth."

WHY is a man who spoils his children like another who builds castles in the air? Because he indulges in-fancy too much.

Dr. Pettit's Eye Salve.

REV. C. B. M. WOODWARD, of Newbury, Vt., says:—"I let my daughter try it; it cured her eyes. I gave some to others who were afflicted; it gave perfect satisfaction. Cases of several years' standing were cured by it."

"A little girl of Mr. Baldwin, of Bradford, Vt., severe-ly afflicted from infancy, which had baffled the efforts of all physicians, was perfectly cured by the Salve."

"It will strengthen weak eyes. I have used it most every night for two years, before going to bed, and the benefit I have received from it is too great to set a price upon." 26tf

FRANKLIN HOUSE,

Water Street, Augusta, Maine.

THE subscribers hereby inform their friends and the public generally, that they have recently taken the above named House, and caused it to be refitted and furnished, and well arranged to convene the traveling public. This House, for convenience and location for business men and travelers, cannot be surpassed. The stables are equal to any on the river; and the subscribers pledge themselves that the FRANKLIN HOUSE, while under their control, shall be kept to the satisfaction of all who may favor them with their patronage.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES TO LET.

Carriages will be in readiness to take passengers to and from the cars. G. W. & T. F. YOUNG,

Augusta, December, 1856. 51tf Proprietors.

REMOVAL! REMOVAL!

New Store! New Goods!

THE undersigned, formerly of Augusta, respectfully informs his friends and the public in the vicinity of Waterville, that he has established himself there, and has taken a store one door north of J. M. CROCKER'S, with the intention to carry on the

Embroidery and Fancy Dry Goods Business.

He flatters himself to be thoroughly acquainted with the above business in all its branches; and having just returned from New York and Boston, where he has carefully selected, and will receive throughout the season, a rich and fashionable stock of EMBROIDERIES, FANCY AND DRY GOODS, he offers them at such prices as will be *Great Inducements to Purchasers.*

Ladies of Waterville and vicinity, having as fine a stock of Goods as there is in the market, I most humbly beg a share of your patronage. B. BONNE.

One door north of J. M. Crocker's, near Ticonic Row.

Waterville, March 1857. 3m15

Dr. Orff's Pain Catholicon,

FOR THE CURE OF

Sprains, Bruises, Cramp, Toothache, Colic, Cholera Morbus, Pains in the Side, Back, Limbs, Stomach and Bowels; Cuts, Boils, Chilblains, &c.

SOLD by A. B. LONGFELLOW, Palermo Centre, and by one or more traders in nearly every town in the Counties of Lincoln and Waldo, and vicinities. Try it. Also,

Dr. Orff's Celebrated Bitters,

For Bilious and Weak Stomachs. For particulars, see handbills, cards, and a pamphlet for the people. *1lweop6m25

Green Sand Marl of New Jersey.

The New Jersey Fertilizer Company

IS now prepared to receive orders for this important Manure. For all lands upon which ashes are beneficial, the MARL is more than a substitute. Prof. Cook, in his Annual Report to the Legislature of New Jersey, says:

"The value of these Marls is best seen in the rich and highly cultivated district which has been improved (almost made) by their use. But it may be interesting to examine the causes of their great value in Agriculture, and to compare them with other fertilizers. For example: the potash alone may be taken, at an average, as five per cent of the whole weight of the Marl; a bushel, when dry, weighs eighty pounds, and in the proportion mentioned, would contain four pounds of potash. This is nearly as much as there is in a bushel of *unleached wood ashes.*"

And again:—"It is probable that the great value of the Marl is to be found in the fact that it contains nearly all the substance necessary to make up the ash of our common cultivated plants."

Price, delivered on board vessels at the wharves of the Company, at Portland Heights, Raritan Bay, New Jersey, Seven cents per Bushel.

For further particulars, see circular, sent free of postage. Orders for other fertilizers will receive prompt attention.

N. B. Those wishing Marl for spring use should order immediately, to secure its early shipment. Orders will be filed in rotation.

Address either of the undersigned.

CHAS. SEARS, *President,*
Riceville Post Office, N. J.

TAPPAN TOWNSEND, *Treas.*, 82 Nassau st., N. Y.
GEO. W. ATWOOD, *Sec'y*, 16 Cedar st., N. Y. 1y4

DENTISTRY.

THE subscriber, thankful for the very liberal patronage which he has received during a seven years' practice in his present location, takes this opportunity to inform his friends and the public generally, that he still continues at his old stand, where he may be found ready to perform all operations upon the teeth. He manufactures and inserts artificial teeth, from one to an entire set, upon any of the principles and in any of the styles known to the dental profession. He hopes, by care and faithfulness, to merit a continuance of favors. J. B. FILLEBROWN.

Winthrop, Sept. 1, 1856. 37

KENNEBEC, SS.—*At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the 4th Monday of June, A. D.* 1857.

LEAH KINSLEY, widow of

SILAS KINSLEY, late of Sidney,

in said County, deceased, having presented her application for allowance out of the personal estate of said deceased:

ORDERED, That the said widow give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Augusta, in said County, on the 2d Monday of July next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

A true copy. Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 27

KENNEBEC, SS.—*At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the fourth Monday of June, A. D.* 1857.

MIRIAM R. STAIN, Executrix of the last Will and Testament of

JAMES R. STAIN, late of Mt. Vernon,

in said County, deceased, having presented her account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance:

ORDERED, That the said Executrix give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Augusta, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said County, on the second Monday of July next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

A true copy. Attest:—J. BURTON, *Register.* 27

At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, on the 4th Monday of June, A. D. 1857, *within and for the County of Kennebec.*

A CERTAIN INSTRUMENT, purporting to be the last will and testament of

ASA WILLIAMS, late of Augusta,

in said County, deceased, having been presented by RUTH WILLIAMS, the Executrix therein named, for Probate:

ORDERED, That the said Executrix give notice to all person interested by causing a copy of this order to be published in th Maine Farmer, printed at Augusta, in said County, three weeks successively, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said County, on the 2d Monday of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved, and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest—J. BURTON, *Register.*
True copy. Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 27

At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, on the 4th Monday of June, A. D. 1857, *within and for the County of Kennebec.*

A CERTAIN INSTRUMENT, purporting to be the last will and testament of

JOHN CURRIER, late of Readfield,

in said County, deceased, having been presented by HIRAM GILMAN, the Executor therein named, for Probate:

ORDERED, That the said Executor give notice to all persons interested by causing a copy of this order to be published in the Maine Farmer, printed at Augusta, in said County, three weeks successively, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said County, on the second Monday of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved, and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest—J. BURTON, *Register.*
True copy. Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 27

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator on the Estate of

EUNICE HUTCHINSON, late of Fayette,

in the county of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to ASA HUTCHINSON.

June 22, 1857. 27

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Executor of the last will and testament of

EBENEZER VARNEY, late of Albion,

in the county of Kennebec, deceased, testate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

June 22, 1857. *27 EDMUND P. PRESCOTT.

Notice of Foreclosure.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, that JOSIAH L. ORCUTT, of Monmouth, in the county of Kennebec and State of Maine, by his deed dated May 29, A. D. 1856, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for said county, March 19, 1857, in volume 206, mortgaged to me a certain piece of land situated in Monmouth, aforesaid, and bounded on the north and west by land of J. B. Prescott, east by land of Seth Fogg, and on the south by the county road—reference being had to said deed of mortgage for a more full and perfect description of said premises, containing about one-half acre; and that the condition of said deed of mortgage has been broken, and that by reason thereof I claim a foreclosure of the right of redemption of said premises under said mortgage.

OREN W. BLAISDELL.

Monmouth, June 20, 1857